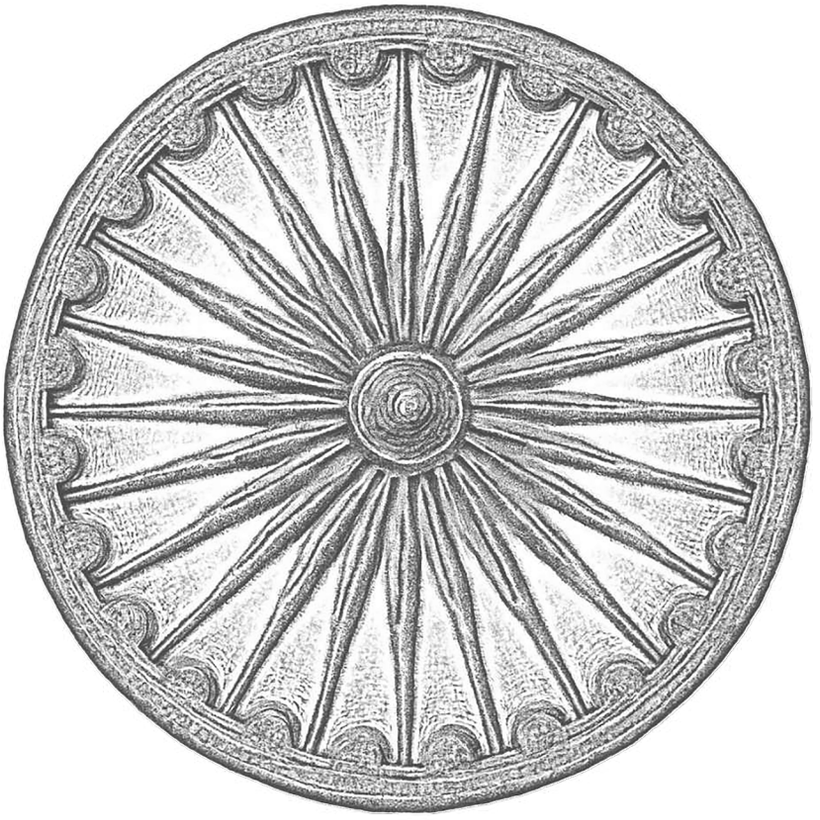
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MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

ANNUAL REPORT 2025



Policy Planning and Research Division

The Annual Report of the Ministry of External Affairs is brought out by the Policy Planning and Research Division.
A digital copy of the Annual Report can be accessed at the Ministry's website: www.mea.gov.in

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Maharana and Company #+91 9811489304

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Introduction & Synopsis

In 2025, India pursued a pragmatic and outcome-oriented foreign policy aimed at advancing national interests through sustained multilateral engagement, strengthened bilateral partnerships, and continued advocacy for reformed multilateralism. Central to India's approach were the priorities of the Global South, alongside enhanced cooperation on technology, climate action, and security, as well as the consolidation of strategic partnerships with like-minded countries. These objectives were supported by flagship initiatives focused on neighbourhood connectivity, the promotion of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), and the provision of Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR).

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) played a central role in steering India's foreign policy and global engagement in pursuit of these objectives. Throughout the year, India remained committed to safeguarding its strategic autonomy, championing reforms of multilateral institutions, addressing the priorities of the Global South, and protecting its national security.

The international environment in 2025 was shaped by economic volatility, intensified climate change deliberations, geopolitical tensions, and energy challenges. In response, India pursued active global engagements with countries and multilateral fora including the United Nations, G20, G7, Quad, SCO, and BRICS, with a focus on climate action, poverty alleviation, counter-terrorism, connectivity, and trade.

India's engagement with its neighbourhood remains one of the defining pillars of its foreign policy, guided by the **'Neighbourhood First'** approach. This approach is anchored in the principles of Samman (respect), Samvad (dialogue), Sahyog (cooperation), Shanti (peace), and Samriddhi (prosperity), as articulated by the Prime Minister. India's policy seeks to enhance physical, digital, and people-to-people connectivity across the region, with a focus on creating mutually beneficial, people-oriented regional frameworks for stability and prosperity. Engagement with the neighbourhood is pursued in a consultative, non-reciprocal, and outcome-oriented manner.

The year witnessed high-level interactions between India and Afghanistan, including Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi's visit to India in October. Through these engagements, India and Afghanistan discussed issues of mutual concern. India continues to provide humanitarian assistance to the country in the field of healthcare, capacity-building, infrastructure and reconstruction. India also restored the embassy status of its Technical Mission in Kabul. With Bangladesh, development cooperation remained a cornerstone of the bilateral relations. Major connectivity projects were also advanced during the year, alongside the joint dredging of critical stretches of the Brahmaputra and Kushiyara rivers to enhance linkages with India's North-East. Economic connectivity and energy cooperation grew steadily, with Bangladesh importing approximately 2,750 MW of electricity from India.

India and Bhutan continued to strengthen their bilateral partnership through sustained high-level engagement and steady progress across key sectors. King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck visited India twice during the year. The visits witnessed advanced collaboration in emerging sectors such as renewable energy, health, STEM, fintech, and space. Bilateral relations with the Maldives reached new heights during the year, marked by the Prime Minister's State Visit as Guest of Honour for the 60th Independence Day celebrations of the Maldives, coinciding with 60 years of diplomatic relations.

The political and security situation in Myanmar has remained volatile since 2021, and India has consistently called for the cessation of violence, a dialogue-based resolution of issues, and a return to democratic transition through free, fair, and inclusive elections. High-level engagement continued, with two meetings between the Prime Minister and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing, as well as visits by several Ministers from Myanmar to India.

India and Nepal continued engagement through high-level and ministerial visits. The bilateral cooperation advanced across several key domains. Connectivity witnessed significant progress through new MoUs for two 400 kV cross-border transmission lines, authorisation for 1,131 MW of power exports from Nepal to India, and ongoing work on rail and infrastructure projects in Nepal.

With strategic autonomy at its core, India continued to step up its engagement with all the **major powers** of the world, taking independent decisions in the national interest. Engagement with China was guided by the strategic understanding reached between the Prime Minister and President of China Xi Jinping at their meeting in Kazan in October 2024. Direct air connectivity resumed in October and the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra reopened via both Nathu La and Lipulekh. India and Russia marked 25 years of Strategic Partnership. High-level engagements including President of Russia Vladimir Putin's State Visit to India, parliamentary exchanges, five bilateral meetings between Foreign Ministers and National Security Adviser-level strategic dialogue strengthened bilateral ties. India and the US jointly launched India-US COMPACT (Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology), a comprehensive initiative to deepen cooperation across defence, technology, energy, trade and investment, multilateral engagement, and people-to-people ties. As part of this renewed strategic push, they also announced, "Mission 500" targeting USD 500 billion in bilateral trade by 2030, strengthening the economic pillar of the partnership. During the 15th Annual Summit in Tokyo, India and Japan adopted the India-Japan Joint Vision for the Next Decade and a Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation.

India's engagement with Southeast Asian countries and partners in the Indo-Pacific, under the overall framework of the **'Act East Policy'**, continued to expand and deepen on various levels. Bolstering India's engagement with the East Asia Summit (EAS), EAM represented the country and delivered the National Statement at the 20th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur. India's strong commitment to maritime cooperation, in line with the ASEAN Outlook on the **Indo-Pacific** was reiterated.

India's vision for the Indo-Pacific remains anchored in promoting a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based regional order. In 2025, India intensified its engagement across Indo-Pacific mechanisms, including ASEAN,

the EAS, the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), the Mekong–Ganga Cooperation (MGC), the Ayeyawady–Chao Phraya–Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS), the Asia–Europe Meeting (ASEM), and the Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT); advancing the MAHASAGAR approach of holistic and cooperative regional growth.

India's relations with countries in **West Asia** continued to strengthen and deepen during the year. India and Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council was expanded to four ministerial committees covering critical areas of collaboration. India and Oman concluded the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA). India's relations with Qatar were elevated to a strategic partnership and were strengthened by the State Visit of Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani.

New momentum was given to our engagement with **Africa** through rising trade, finance, and capacity-building. Bilateral trade grew with Ghana, Angola, Côte d'Ivoire, Cameroon, and the Republic of the Congo. New lines of credit, including USD 200 million to Angola, supported infrastructure projects such as the Niangdo Dam. Training programmes, Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) slots, and ICCR scholarships strengthened capacity-building across governance, defence, and public administration.

Overall, **diplomatic outreach** continued vigorously through the year. Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji undertook State Visits to Portugal, the Slovak Republic, the Vatican, Angola and Botswana. The visit to Portugal, undertaken after a gap of 27 years, coincided with the 50th anniversary of the re-establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries. This milestone was commemorated through the issuance of a postage stamp. The visit contributed to further strengthening long-standing bilateral ties, particularly in trade and investment, science and technology, information technology, renewable energy, connectivity, mobility, and people-to-people exchanges.

This year marked the first visit in 29 years by the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji to the Slovak Republic. Two Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) were exchanged during the visit, including one on cooperation in the field of micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) between the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) and the Slovak Business Agency, and another on diplomatic training cooperation between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) and the Slovak Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs.

In April, Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji attended the Mass of His Holiness Pope Francis at Saint Peter's Square in Vatican City. In October, Hon'ble Vice-President visited Seychelles to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the President of Seychelles.

Continuing India's high-level engagement with partner countries, the Prime Minister visited Argentina, Bhutan, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Japan, Jordan, Mauritius, Namibia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, the Maldives, the United Kingdom and the US to participate in a wide range of bilateral, plurilateral, and multilateral engagements.

The Prime Minister also participated in several virtual and in-person summit-level meetings during the year, including the G20 Summit, the Outreach Session of the G7 Summit, the BRICS Summit, and the SCO Summit.

Throughout 2025, India worked closely with the international community to combat **terrorism** in all its forms and manifestations. A major security development during the year was India's response to the Pahalgam terror attack through the launch of Operation Sindoor, a calibrated and proportionate response targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. The operation received broad international support, reaffirming India's right to self-defence. India further strengthened its counter-terrorism agenda through Joint Working Groups with key partners including Australia, Egypt, the European Union, France, Italy, Tanzania, Uzbekistan and the US.

A defining feature of India's multilateral engagement in 2025 was its continued contribution to shaping the G20 agenda. The Prime Minister participated in the **20th G20 Leaders' Summit** held in Johannesburg

in November under South Africa's Presidency. He proposed six-forward looking initiatives including a G20 Global Traditional Knowledge Repository, an Africa Skills Multiplier, a Global Healthcare Response Team, an Open Satellite Data Partnership, a Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative, and an Initiative on Countering the Drug–Terror Nexus, aimed at enhancing global resilience and cooperation. The Prime Minister's interventions were widely appreciated by both developed and developing countries for their emphasis on holistic and human-centric development, anchored in the philosophy of Integral Humanism.

The year also witnessed the continued expansion of the **International Solar Alliance** (ISA), with new signatories and ratifications further strengthening its global footprint. Countries such as Liberia, Angola, and Mongolia became signatories to the ISA treaty, while Moldova and Lebanon completed ratification. These developments reaffirm India's leadership in advancing solar energy cooperation and strengthening global climate action.

India's **development cooperation** during the year has remained demand-driven and grounded in non-interference and mutual benefit, delivering concessional finance, projects, debt relief, and extensive capacity-building across the Global South. India completed some key infrastructure projects in partner countries such as Cameroon, Guyana, Maldives, Mauritius, and Nicaragua. Under the ITEC, over 14,000 individuals were trained, comprising 250 multi-country options and 3,900 Defence-ITEC slots.

The emphasis of the government on **service delivery and citizen-centric governance** is reflected through the successful roll out of the flagship upgraded version of its flagship Passport Seva Programme (PSP). The PSP Version 2.0 is designed to create a digitally integrated ecosystem connecting all stakeholders involved in passport services, with a focus on efficiency, transparency, and user convenience.

The following pages present an integrated overview of India's external engagement in 2025. Drawing upon the thematic and regional chapters that follow, it outlines the strategic context, principal priorities, and major diplomatic developments of the year.

India's Neighbours

Afghanistan

India and Afghanistan strengthened their ties, through ministerial engagements. Continuing humanitarian assistance, India gifted 20 ambulances to help strengthen emergency medical services for the Afghan people. India and Afghanistan announced the initiation of the Air Freight Corridor on the Kabul-Delhi and Kabul-Amritsar sectors, welcomed the reactivation of the Joint Working Group on Trade, Commerce and Investment and agreed to explore opportunities for collaboration in mining and other high-value sectors. The countries have also agreed to depute Commercial Representatives at their respective Embassies and to institutionalise a Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry.



EAM handed over 5 ambulances to the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Afghanistan Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi, as part of India's larger gift of 20 ambulances and medical equipment for the Afghan people, October 2025.

Pakistan

Pakistan's continued policy of sponsoring cross-border terrorism against India, including the barbaric attack in Pahalgam, in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April 2025 that killed 26 innocent civilians (including one Nepali citizen), led to India's resolute and multifaceted response. India's response combined diplomatic measures with military operations ('Operation Sindoor'), targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan occupied Jammu and Kashmir. 'Operation Sindoor' has set a new benchmark in India's fight against cross-border terrorism and has established a 'new normal'.

Furthermore, India continued to combat Pakistan's disinformation campaigns on Jammu and Kashmir during the year and reiterated that terrorism is incompatible with dialogue. India raised Pakistan's complicity in terrorism at bilateral and multilateral platforms, including at the United Nations, where it organised the exhibition 'Human Cost of Terrorism' from 30 June to 11 July to highlight the impact of terror on ordinary people.

Despite the strained environment, India continued to address humanitarian and people-centric issues. Under the 1974 Protocol on Visit to Religious Shrines, India facilitated pilgrimages for 5,135 Indian devotees to religious shrines in Pakistan and hosted 289 Pakistani pilgrims in India, while temporarily suspending Kartarpur services due to security concerns. India remained committed to the welfare of prisoners and fishermen, securing the repatriation of 22 Indian fishermen in 2025 and over 2,700 Indian nationals since 2014.

Bangladesh

India and Bangladesh share deep bonds of history, language, culture, and strong people-to-people ties, which have gradually evolved into a broad-based partnership. The Prime Minister met Chief Adviser Professor Muhammad Yunus on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC Summit in April and conveyed India's support following the tragic air crash in Dhaka. He also extended his condolences on the passing of former Prime Minister and BNP Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia. EAM visited Dhaka in December, to represent the Government of India at Begum Zia's funeral. Earlier this year in February, EAM met Foreign Affairs Adviser Touhid Hossain in Muscat in February, reaffirming India's commitment to a stable and mutually beneficial partnership anchored in shared aspirations.

India has continued to extend support for various development-oriented initiatives in Bangladesh through Lines of Credit and Grants-in-Aid Projects. India has also extended support for High Impact Community Development Projects, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief and capacity building programmes. Since 2014, India has extended LoC amounting to USD 6.5 billion in assistance to Bangladesh.

Major connectivity projects including the joint dredging of critical stretches of the Brahmaputra and Kushiyara rivers to enhance linkages with India's North-East were advanced during the year. A tripartite Power Sale Agreement between Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd. (NVVN) and Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) was operationalised in November 2024, following which the power trade of 40 MW electricity commenced from Nepal to Bangladesh through the Indian grid in 2025.

Myanmar

Myanmar is an important neighbour, central to India's Act East and MAHASAGAR visions, and a key link to Southeast Asia and ASEAN. India and Myanmar share deep civilisational and historical ties, reinforced by a shared Buddhist heritage. Substantial progress was made during the year in bilateral relations.

India continued to maintain a significant development cooperation portfolio of about USD 2 billion, including progress on the Kaladan Project, the India–Myanmar–Thailand Trilateral Highway, and community development initiatives under Border Area Development Program (BADP), Rakhine State Development Program (RSDP), High Impact

Community Development Projects (HICDP), and Quick Impact Projects (QIPs).

Reaffirming its role as a first responder, India launched 'Operation Brahma' following the March earthquake, delivering nearly 1,000 MT of HADR and deploying National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) search-and-rescue teams, engineering units, and a field hospital.

India and Myanmar signed an MoU on Cooperation in the field of Implementation of Pilot Project for Digital Identity and Programme for Cooperation in Science and Technology. Under this MoU, a team from National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG) visited Myanmar in November and met concerned officials.

Bhutan

India and Bhutan continued to strengthen their bilateral partnership through sustained high-level engagement and steady progress across key sectors. The commissioning of all six units of the 1020 Mega Watt (MW) Punatsangchhu-II hydroelectric power project, built with Indian assistance was completed in August. Prime Minister and the King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck jointly inaugurated the 1020 MW Punatsangchuu-II Hydroelectric Project, a major milestone in the vibrant and growing mutually beneficial energy partnership between India and Bhutan.



Prime Minister and King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck inaugurated the Punatsangchhu-II hydroelectric power project located in the Wangdue Phodrang District of Western Bhutan, November 2025.

The Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot) of Bhutan visited India in September to preside over the consecration ceremony of the Royal Bhutan Temple at Rajgir, Bihar, which also saw participation of the Prime Minister Tshering Tobgay. During the same visit, Prime Minister Tobgay also visited the Ram Temple at Ayodhya.

Strong people-to-people ties were further reinforced through education scholarships, capacity-building programmes, youth exchanges, and cultural initiatives. Bhutan is developing the Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC) as a Special Administrative Region, as per the vision of the King of Bhutan. The Government of India has conveyed its support for the project and is engaging with Bhutan on the various facets of the initiative.

Nepal

India-Nepal relations are unique, multifaceted and underpinned by civilisational linkages and strong people-to-people ties. Bilateral ties witnessed a renewed momentum throughout the year with high-level bilateral exchanges and meetings of various dialogue mechanisms, some of which had resumed after a long gap. The development partnership also continued to move forward. Substantial progress was also achieved in key areas of bilateral cooperation, particularly in connectivity, including Integrated Check Posts (ICPs), cross-border rail links, transmission lines and petroleum product pipelines, motorable bridges and roads as well as in hydropower projects.

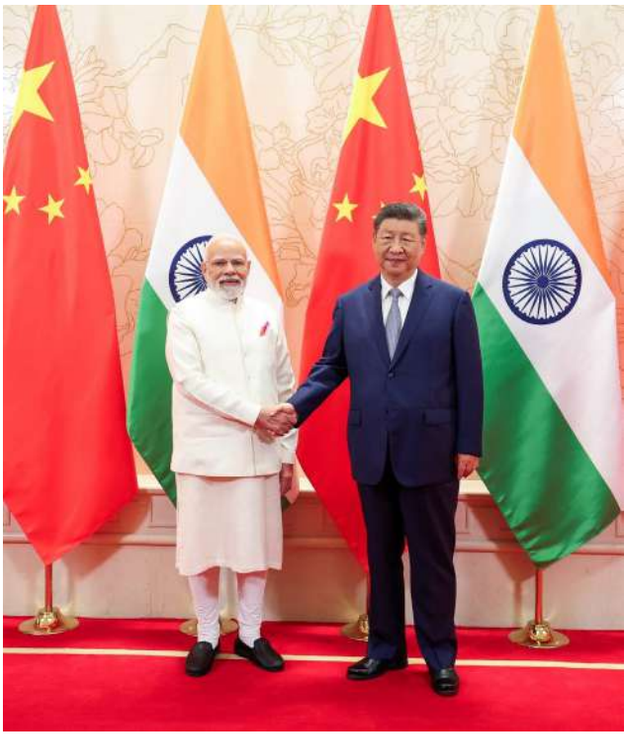
In the wake of political developments in September, the Government of India welcomed the formation of the Interim Government, reiterated its commitment to work closely with Nepal and conveyed full support to Nepal in its efforts towards restoring peace, progress and stability. The Government of India also extended its full support to the Government of Nepal in response to its request for vehicles and equipment for its security forces in preparation for elections scheduled to be held in the following year.

In 2025, Prime Minister held three interactions with the then Prime Minister of Nepal K.P. Sharma Oli. In March, the then Foreign Minister of Nepal Arzu Rana

Deuba, visited India to attend Raisina Dialogue. During the visit, she met EAM and discussed various facets of India-Nepal bilateral cooperation. Prior to this visit, she also met EAM on the sidelines of Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) 2025 in Oman in February.

China

India-China bilateral engagement intensified significantly in 2025, with Prime Minister visiting China for the SCO Summit and holding a bilateral meeting with President Xi Jinping in Tianjin in August. High-level visits were frequent in the lead-up, including by the NSA, Raksha Mantri, and EAM, while the Foreign Secretary met Vice Foreign Minister Sun Weidong twice during the year. India and China also maintained regular engagement across multilateral platforms, including BRICS, the SCO, the G20, and the UN.



Prime Minister met President of China Xi Jinping on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin, August 2025.

The Kailash Mansarovar Yatra resumed through both the Nathu La and Lipulekh routes, and direct flight connectivity between the two countries was restored in late October.

Border-related discussions continued through the 33rd and 34th rounds of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC), held in March and July, and the 24th round of the Special Representative Mechanism held in New Delhi in August. The year also marked the 75th anniversary of India-China bilateral relations, celebrated through think-tank dialogues and cultural activities. Total bilateral trade stood at USD 96.46 billion up to November, though a trade deficit of USD 75.05 billion remained a concern that both leaders acknowledged needed to be addressed.

Indian Ocean Region

India advanced its outreach in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR) through sustained high-level interactions and collaborative initiatives. Engagements during the year expanded cooperation in economic growth, defence, maritime security, connectivity, digital transformation, and cultural exchanges. These efforts underscored India's proactive role in fostering regional partnerships and promoting a stable, prosperous, and inclusive Indo-Pacific.

Sri Lanka

India and Sri Lanka share deep civilisational, cultural, and historical ties, and the relationship occupies a central place in India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and MAHASAGAR vision. Bilateral relations continued to expand, marked by sustained high-level political engagement and strengthened cooperation across connectivity, energy, development partnership, defence, and people-to-people exchanges. The Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Sri Lanka in April - the first by any Head of Government since President Anura Kumara Dissanayake assumed office. The State Visit witnessed the signing of seven MoUs across defence, health, digital cooperation, and energy. At the same time, debt restructuring arrangements were concluded, and five India-assisted projects were jointly inaugurated during the visit.



Prime Minister was conferred the 'Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana' award - Sri Lanka's highest honour bestowed on foreign leaders during his State Visit to the country, April 2025.

High-level exchanges continued throughout the year, including the visit of the Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Amarasuriya to India in October, during which she met the Prime Minister and the EAM. A series of ministerial-level engagements further strengthened sectoral cooperation, including visits by Sri Lankan Ministers responsible for Youth Affairs, Industry, Digital Economy, Ports and Civil Aviation, Trade, and Energy. Multiple parliamentary and political delegations also visited India, reflecting the growing breadth of people-centric and institutional linkages between the two countries.

The year witnessed substantial progress across development, economic, and defence cooperation. Several major infrastructure projects, including railway upgrades, solar initiatives, and agricultural cold-chain facilities, were launched or completed with Indian assistance. India extended financial support for the passenger ferry service, signed new MoUs in renewable energy, agriculture, and health, and advanced the Trincomalee Energy Hub in partnership with Sri Lanka and the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Capacity-building remained a strong pillar, with over 200 Sri Lankan civil servants trained under the National Centre for Good Governance - Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (NCGG-SLIDA) programme and 700 additional annual training slots announced. These developments collectively reinforced the steady strengthening of India–Sri Lanka ties across all domains.

Maldives

High-level engagements remained active throughout the year, with multiple visits by the Maldivian Foreign Minister and Defence Minister, parliamentary delegations, and senior officials, as well as meetings between the Prime Minister and President Mohamed Muizzu in Malé and on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in August.

Prime Minister and the President of Maldives Mohamed Muizzu jointly inaugurated the state-of-the-art Ministry of Defence (MoD) building in Male.

The 11-storey building was constructed with India's financial assistance and will contribute towards enhancing the capabilities of the defence and law enforcement authorities of Maldives.

Bilateral cooperation continued to focus on maritime security, connectivity, people-to-people exchanges, and development partnership. Trade remained steady, with USD 309 million recorded during the year, and India extended its restriction-free export arrangement for essential commodities for another year. The Prime Minister's visit witnessed the signing of the terms of reference for FTA negotiations; the introduction of UPI network-to-network payments in the Maldives; the inauguration of key infrastructure, including the aforementioned the Ministry of Defence Building; and the handing over of 3,300 social housing units in Hulhumalé. Eight MoUs were exchanged, expanding cooperation in digital public infrastructure, fisheries, meteorology, and pharmacopoeia standards.

Defence ties were reinforced through Joint Staff Talks, the Defence Cooperation Dialogue, and extensive capacity-building for Maldives National Defence Force (MNDF) personnel. More than 400 Maldivian nationals received training in India under ITEC and institutional MoUs. At the same time, tourism and people-to-people exchanges remained robust, further cementing the enduring warmth and strategic depth of the India–Maldives partnership.

Mauritius

In September, Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji welcomed Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam, during his State Visit to India. Prior to this, the Prime Minister had paid a State Visit to Mauritius in March, during which the relationship was elevated to an Enhanced Strategic Partnership and a Joint Vision Document was adopted. Eight MoUs were signed across sectors, including training and capacity-building programmes for public service officers, training of diplomats, local currency settlement of bilateral trade, cooperation in the field of small and medium enterprises, the blue economy, an Indian rupee-denominated line of credit, and white shipping information exchange.



Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam called on Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji during his eight-day state visit to India at Rashtrapati Bhavan, September 2025.

During the visit, the Prime Minister announced that India's maritime policy has evolved into MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions), becoming a symbol of India's growing global footprint. The Prime Minister stated that the vision of transforming 'SAGAR to MAHASAGAR' will propel India towards achieving the goal of becoming a global leader in the maritime sector.

Seychelles

India views Seychelles as a crucial partner in the IOR, aligning with its Vision MAHASAGAR and India's commitment to the Global South. Bilateral engagements were strengthened with high-level and ministerial visits. During his visit, Hon'ble Vice President held talks with Vice President of Seychelles Sebastien Pillay and addressed the Indian community in Seychelles.

India continued its socio-economic partnership with Seychelles by advancing HICDP projects, including road construction and procurement of medical equipment. Enhancing connectivity, tourism, trade and people-to-people ties, direct flights commenced between Mumbai and Mahe Island, with four flights per week.

Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)

India's engagement with the IORA deepened significantly during the year, culminating in India assuming the Chairship of the organisation for the 2025–2027 term on 12 November. India participated in the 27th Committee of Senior Officials and the 24th Council of Ministers held virtually in May under Sri Lanka's Chairship, and continued to lead the Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security, holding its second meeting under Indian leadership in May to update the work plan. India also participated in the Working Group on Disaster Risk Management and joined the Ad-hoc Committee on Finance to strengthen the Secretariat's business processes.

South East Asia and Indo-Pacific

India's engagement with Southeast Asian countries and partners in the Indo-Pacific, under the overall framework of the Act East Policy, continued to expand and deepen on various levels.

President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto paid his first State Visit to India from 23 to 26 January and was the Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations. In a historic first, a 352-member marching and band contingent from the Indonesian Armed Forces participated in India's Republic Day Parade. During the visit, the two sides concluded several bilateral documents in the fields of health cooperation, traditional medicine quality assurance, maritime safety and security, digital development, and cultural exchange. Indonesia's Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin visited India in November, and co-chaired the third India-Indonesia Defence Ministers' Dialogue with Raksha Mantri.

President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam paid a State Visit to India in January as both countries celebrated the 60th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam released a joint stamp commemorating the 60th anniversary of diplomatic ties between India and Singapore in New Delhi, January 2025.

Later in the year, Prime Minister of Singapore Lawrence Wong paid an official visit to India from 2–4

September. During this visit, a Roadmap for the India–Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP Roadmap) was adopted. Following this, he held talks with Prime Minister on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg in November. The relations were subsequently strengthened with ministerial visits.

The Prime Minister paid an official visit to Bangkok, Thailand, in April. The Prime Minister held bilateral talks with the then Prime Minister of Thailand Paetongtarn Shinawatra, during which the two leaders agreed to elevate the existing bilateral relationship to a Strategic Partnership. Later in the year, EAM held talks with his counterpart on the margins of ASEAN Summit meetings in Malaysia and Foreign Minister of Thailand Sihasak Phuangketkeow's visit to India.

India-Australia bilateral relations witnessed high-level interactions and deepening cooperation across various domains. The Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese launched 'A New Roadmap for Australia's Economic Engagement with India' on 26 February to bolster economic ties between the two countries. He met Prime Minister on the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg in November. The India-Australia-Canada Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership was announced on the margins of the Summit. It is a trilateral partnership aimed at boosting cooperation on critical and emerging technology, clean energy, AI and critical minerals.

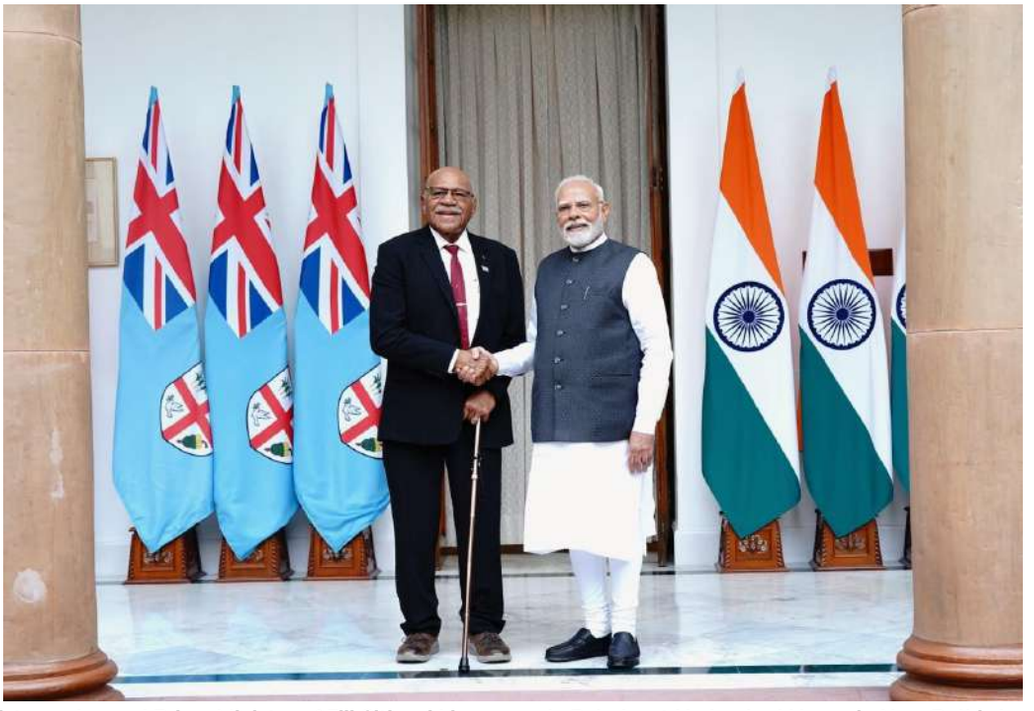
Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Australia Richard Marles visited India on 3–4 June. Later in the year, Raksha Mantri paid his first visit to Australia in 12 years, from 9–10 October. During this visit, both sides decided to institute an Annual Defence Ministers' Dialogue between the two countries. Also during the visit, the first Australia–India Defence Industry Roundtable was held in Sydney on 10 October.

The EAM and the Foreign Minister of Australia Penny Wong met on the sidelines of the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting (QFMM) in Washington DC on 21 January, and again on the sidelines of the QFMM in Washington DC, on 2 July. Later, the two Ministers held a pull-aside meeting on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 25 September in New York, held on the margins of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) high-level week. Later in November, Foreign Minister Penny Wong visited India and co-chaired the 16th Foreign Ministers' framework Dialogue with EAM.

India's bilateral relationship with New Zealand witnessed high-level exchanges. Prime Minister Christopher Luxon paid an official visit to India in March and was the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker at the 10th Raisina Dialogue. During the visit, New Zealand joined the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI). The India-New Zealand FTA is one of the fastest-concluded FTAs, enhancing market access and tariff preferences for Indian exports to New Zealand.

India stepped up its efforts to engage with countries in this region through several high-level visits and under the landmark initiative, the Forum for India–Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC). India continued to enhance its engagement with the Pacific Island Countries (PICs). Through South–South Cooperation, India provides annual grant-in-aid to all 14 PICs, including Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Nauru, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Kiribati, Palau, Vanuatu, and the Republic of the Marshall Islands, supporting diverse development projects such as solar electrification, water storage, disaster relief, and healthcare systems.

Prime Minister of Fiji Sitiveni Rabuka paid his first official visit to India. The visit witnessed the exchange of eight bilateral documents, including an MoU on the design, construction, commissioning, operation, and maintenance of a 100-bed super-speciality hospital in Fiji as announced by the Prime Minister during the third FIPIC Summit, and an MoU on the supply of medicines under the Jan Aushadhi Scheme, along with 17 announcements aimed at deepening cooperation. Fiji also joined the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) during the visit.



Prime Minister welcomed Prime Minister of Fiji Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, August 2025.

The EAM chaired a meeting of the FIPIC Foreign Ministers in New York on 24 September, on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly. During the 53rd Pacific Islands Forum, MoS Pabitra Margherita (PM) announced that India will undertake one Quick Impact Project (QIP) of each country's choice. QIPs related to socio-economic development in Fiji and Nauru were initiated during the year.

India also provided significant assistance through community-oriented projects, including an annual grant-in-aid of USD 2.8 million (USD 200,000 to each PIC). These projects span diverse areas, such as community development, solar electrification, purchase and supply of agricultural equipment, computers, LED bulbs for schools, sewing machines, dialysis machines, portable sawmills, boats and pickup trucks, the construction of a sea wall, and coral farms. In July, India sent 5 MT of high-quality cowpea seeds to support food security and agricultural resilience in Fiji. A tripartite agreement on Community Access to resilient essential health in Micronesia, funded under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, was signed on 29 November.

India supports a free, open, inclusive, and rules-based Indo-Pacific underpinned by respect for sovereignty, international law, and the peaceful resolution of disputes. In 2025, India intensified its engagement these projects span across Indo-Pacific mechanisms and institutions.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)

Relations with ASEAN deepened under the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with 2025 designated as the ASEAN–India Year of Tourism and the adoption of the ASEAN–India Plan of Action (2026–2030). Prime Minister participated in the 22nd ASEAN-India Summit held in Kuala Lumpur in October in virtual-mode, where he announced 2026 as the 'ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation' with an aim to forge partnerships in the blue economy. Earlier, in July, MoS (PM) led an Indian delegation at the ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Kuala Lumpur.



Prime Minister participated virtually in the 22nd ASEAN-India Leaders' Summit held under the Malaysian Presidency, October 2025.

Bolstering India's engagement with EAS, EAM represented the country and delivered the National Statement at the 20th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur, in October. He underscored India's strong commitment to maritime cooperation, in line with the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific.

During the year, India hosted multiple connectivity, capacity-building, and cultural initiatives across the BIMSTEC, EAS, and MGC frameworks, operationalised the BIMSTEC Energy Centre, and expanded QIPs in Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam (CLMV) countries.

Under the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI), India worked with partner countries in co-leading thematic pillars ranging from maritime security to disaster management and digital connectivity. As Vice-Chair of the IORA, India advanced cooperation in maritime safety, the blue economy, and disaster risk management, and assumed chairship of IORA for the period 2025-27.

Through these sustained engagements, India reinforced its central role in shaping an Indo-Pacific defined by stability, prosperity, and a collaborative regional architecture.

East Asia

Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)

Relations between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) remained on an even keel. India remained consistently supportive of efforts to bring about peace and stability in the Korean Peninsula through dialogue and diplomacy.

Japan

The India–Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership was strengthened during the year. Prime Minister paid an official visit to Japan on 29–30 August for the 15th India–Japan Annual Summit with the then Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba. The two leaders adopted the India–Japan Joint Vision for the Next Decade, outlining a 10-year strategic roadmap for cooperation across eight priority areas: economic partnership, economic security, mobility, ecological sustainability, technology and innovation, health, people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and state–prefecture cooperation. The Summit led to ambitious agreements on security cooperation, human resource exchanges (envisaging two-way exchange of 500,000

people, including 50,000 skilled and semi-skilled Indian workers to Japan over five years), collaboration in critical minerals and rare earth elements, emerging and strategic technologies, space science, clean energy, environment and science and technology including AI. A private investment target of JPY 10 trillion in India over the next decade was a milestone.

Prime Minister met Prime Minister of Japan Sanae Takaichi in November and reaffirmed the importance of the India-Japan partnership for peace, progress and prosperity in the Indo-Pacific and beyond. Both sides agreed that the special ties would continue to be strengthened in line with the ambitious direction charted during the 15th Annual Summit.



Prime Minister met with Prime Minister of Japan Sanae Takaichi on the sidelines of G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg, November 2025.

On the defence front, bilateral exercises including DHARMA GUARDIAN-25 and JAIMEX-25 were conducted, and the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation was reaffirmed during the India-Japan Defence Ministerial Meeting in May.

The year 2025-26 was designated the India-Japan Year of Science, Technology and Innovation Exchanges, with multiple scientific and academic collaborations advancing.

Republic of Korea (ROK)

The year 2025 marked the 10th anniversary of the India-ROK Special Strategic Partnership. It was marked by early engagement with the new administration in Seoul and sustained high-level exchanges. The Prime Minister met President Lee Jae Myung on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis in June, followed by a visit by Special Envoys led by former Prime Minister Kim Boo-kyum in July for meetings with the Prime Minister, the EAM, and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha.



Prime Minister met President of the Republic of Korea Lee Jae Myung on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada, June 2025.

The EAM held multiple engagements with Foreign Minister Cho Hyun, in Johannesburg in February, New Delhi in August, and Kuala Lumpur in October, reinforcing the growing political dialogue. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas led an inter-ministerial delegation to RoK in November to discuss possibilities of collaboration with RoK companies in the shipbuilding sector. Parliamentary and state-level visits added momentum, including an All-Party Parliamentary Delegation in May and visits by the Chief Ministers of Assam, Punjab, and Chhattisgarh. Defence ties deepened through the inaugural bilateral

naval exercise in October, involving INS Sahyadri, and the signing of an MoU on maritime search and rescue between the Coast Guards. Cultural cooperation also expanded, with the Minister of State (Information and Broadcasting) leading India's first ministerial delegation to the Busan International Film Festival and the Asian Contents and Film Market in September.

Mongolia

The highlight of India–Mongolia relations during the year was the State Visit of President Khurelsukh Ukhnaa to India from 13–16 October, coinciding with the 70th anniversary of diplomatic ties and the 10th anniversary of the Strategic Partnership. During the visit, he held talks with Prime Minister, EAM and Speaker of Lok Sabha. The two sides signed and exchanged ten agreements covering diverse sectors, and the Prime Minister announced 70 additional ITEC seats for Mongolian nationals. The visit underscored growing political trust and reaffirmed the shared civilisational and spiritual bonds that underpin the partnership.

The year also saw active engagement across ministerial, official, and defence channels. The EAM met Mongolian Foreign Minister Battsetseg Batmunkh in February, followed by a series of visits by senior Mongolian officials to India, India Energy Week, and the Raisina Dialogue. Defence cooperation advanced through Director General-level talks, the 13th Joint Working Group on Defence Cooperation, and the participation of Indian Army contingents in Nomadic Elephant 2025 and Khaan Quest 2025.

Eurasia and Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

Russia

The year 2025 marked the 25th Anniversary of the Declaration of the Strategic Partnership between India and Russia, established during the first State Visit of President of Russia Vladimir Putin to India in October 2000.

President of Russia Vladimir Putin paid a State Visit to India, for the 23rd India-Russia Annual Summit, on 4-5 December. During the visit, agreements/MoUs were signed in the fields of migration and mobility, health and food safety, maritime cooperation and polar waters, fertilisers, customs and commerce, academic and media collaboration.



Prime Minister met with the President of Russia Vladimir Vladimirovich Putin during the 23rd India- Russia Annual Summit in New Delhi, December 2025.

High-level engagement remained active, including parliamentary exchanges, National Security Adviser-level strategic dialogue in Moscow, and five bilateral meetings between the EAM and Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

The EAM paid an official visit to Russia in August to co-chair the 26th India–Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) with First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov. Defence cooperation advanced through the commissioning of INS Tamal in Kaliningrad in July, the INDRA 2025 naval exercise from 28 March to 2 April, and India's participation in the Zapad 2025 multilateral exercise in September.

Economic ties remained robust, with bilateral trade reaching USD 68.7 billion in 2024–25, supported by ongoing collaboration in energy and technology, and participation in platforms such as the St. Petersburg International Economic Forum, reflecting strong momentum across all pillars of the Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership.

Central Asia

India hosted the fourth Meeting of the India-Central Asia Dialogue on 5-6 June, in New Delhi, where EAM engaged with counterparts from all the five central Asian countries- Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The ministers discussed further strengthening cooperation in trade, connectivity, technology, and regional security.



EAM with the fellow Foreign Ministers from Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) at the fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue held in New Delhi, June 2025.

The fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue further strengthened the millennia old cultural ties, underscored the importance India attaches to its extended neighbourhood and commitment to forging a wider and more resilient partnership.

Ukraine and Belarus

India continued to have cordial relations with Ukraine and Belarus. India and Ukraine sustained their comprehensive bilateral ties through high-level dialogue with President Volodymyr Zelenskyy in August, Foreign Minister Andrii Sybiha's visit for Raisina Dialogue in March, when a Visa Waiver Protocol was signed and new Ukrainian Consulate in Mumbai inaugurated, alongside positive growth in bilateral trade and first Joint Working Group meeting on Agriculture in June.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Andrii Sybiha on the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue 2025 in New Delhi, March 2025.

India-Belarus relations witnessed sustained high-level political, defence, parliamentary and diplomatic engagements, including Prime Minister's meeting with President Alexander Lukashenko at SCO Summit on 31 August, Raksha Mantri's interaction with Defence Minister Lieutenant General Viktor Khrenin in June, and eighth round of Foreign Office Consultations in Minsk in October.

South Caucasus

India's relations with Armenia, Azerbaijan and Georgia continued on an upward trajectory. Foreign Minister of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan visited in March. The establishment of Defence Wing in Yerevan in

January, inauguration of India Corner and Digital Transformation Lab at Armenian State University of Economics Gyumri Branch by Indian Ambassador in November, and 11th Foreign Office Consultations where a Public Health cooperation agreement was signed, strengthened the relations.

India and Azerbaijan maintained their interactions, with the MoS (Communications) leading a delegation to the WTDC-25 in November, and an Indian Parliamentary group attending the APA Plenary in February. Meanwhile, Azerbaijan designated ICWA to head the CICA Think Tank Forum for 2026-27. Relations with Georgia were bolstered through cultural and diplomatic efforts, highlighted by Foreign Minister Maka Botchorishvili's participation in the Raisina Dialogue and a meeting with the EAM in March, as well as the eighth round of Foreign Office Consultations held in Tbilisi in December.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

India's engagement with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) was guided by the Prime Minister's 'SECURE' vision, which translates to Security, Economic Development, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for Sovereignty and Territorial Integrity, and Environmental Protection. India consistently advocated for more decisive action against terrorism, respect for sovereignty, digital inclusion, and sustainable development. The Prime Minister participated in the 25th SCO Summit in Tianjin on 1 September, where he outlined India's approach built on Security, Connectivity, and Opportunity; urging a unified opposition to terrorism, including a condemnation of the Pahalgam attack; and proposed the creation of a Civilisational Dialogue Forum within the SCO to strengthen people-to-people ties. The Summit adopted key agreements on countering security threats and drug trafficking.

India actively participated in the SCO's mechanisms, including the Foreign, Defence, and Security Council meetings. India also hosted major SCO initiatives, including the SCO Startup Forum, the Young Authors' Conference, and the 20th SCO Forum, advancing cooperation on innovation, culture, and regional stability under the ethos of unity and shared responsibility.

GCC, West Asia and North Africa

Gulf

India's relations with the Gulf countries continued to strengthen and deepen during the year. The year saw the exchange of high-level visits, an increase in trade and investment, and the further deepening of ties in areas including energy, security, defence, nuclear cooperation, culture, education, technology, health, and food security.

Gulf countries remained among India's top trading partners. With bilateral trade exceeding USD 178 billion, an upswing in the trade and commercial relationship with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) was evident. Investment flows also remained robust, with cumulative foreign direct investment from GCC countries standing at about USD 28 billion. India's energy imports from the region also remained substantial.

Prime Minister undertook a State Visit to Saudi Arabia on 22 April, his third visit to the Kingdom and his first to Jeddah. Both leaders held official talks and co-chaired the second meeting of the India–Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council. Both sides agreed to collaborate on establishing two oil refineries in India and signed four agreements in space, health, sports (anti-doping), and postal cooperation. The Strategic Partnership Council was expanded to four ministerial committees covering political, consular, and security cooperation; defence cooperation; economy, energy, investment, and technology; and tourism and cultural cooperation.

Defence engagement witnessed further momentum with the announcement of a new Ministerial Committee on Defence Cooperation under the Strategic Partnership Council, in April. The inaugural Navy Staff Talks were held in Riyadh in February, followed by the inaugural Army Staff Talks in New Delhi in April. In December, the Chief of General Staff of Saudi Arabia General Fayyad bin Hamed Al-Ruwaili visited India for the first time and held a bilateral meeting with the Chief of Defence Staff.

India and Oman celebrated 70 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations. The Prime

Minister visited Oman from 17–18 December. The key highlight of the visit was the conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between the two sides. Several MoUs and agreements were signed in the areas of higher education, maritime heritage and museums, agriculture, and EPC on millets. A Joint Vision Document on Maritime Cooperation was also adopted. The Prime Minister held delegation-level as well as one-on-one talks with the Sultan of Oman Sultan Haitham bin Tarik. During the visit, Sultan Haitham bin Tarik of Oman conferred the 'Order of Oman (First Class)' on the Prime Minister in recognition of his exceptional contribution to strengthening India–Oman relations and his leadership.

India-Qatar relations deepened during the year, with the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani's State Visit to India in February leading to the elevation of bilateral ties to a Strategic Partnership. During his visit, MoUs in the fields of financial and economic cooperation, youth and sports, documents and archives, and a revised agreement for the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income were signed. Qatar committed to investing USD 10 billion in India across various sectors, and the decision to open a Qatar Investment Authority office in India was also announced.



Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani was accorded ceremonial reception at Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi on his second State visit to India, February 2025.

The Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum paid his first official visit to India from 8–9 April, during which he met the Prime Minister, the Raksha Mantri, and the EAM. The Crown Prince also met the Minister of Commerce and Industry during a high-level business meeting in Mumbai. The visit witnessed important announcements, including the establishment of an IIM Ahmedabad campus in Dubai, the first overseas campus of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade at Expo City Dubai, and the allocation of land for the UAE–India Friendship Hospital, among others.



Prime Minister met Crown Prince of Dubai and Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of UAE Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum in New Delhi, April 2025.

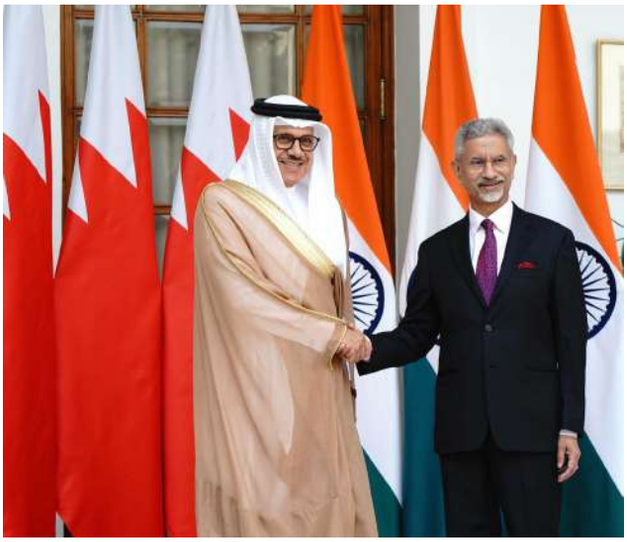
EAM travelled to the UAE on an official visit from 27-29 January, during which he called on the President of the UAE Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed, and met the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed; the Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum; as well as his counterpart, the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed. The meetings provided an opportunity to review the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation, including technology, defence and security, education, culture, and connectivity, as well as regional and global issues. EAM visited the UAE again from 13-15 December. During the visit, he participated in the Sir Bani Yas Forum from 13-14 December and co-chaired the 16th Joint Commission Meeting and the fifth Strategic Dialogue on 15 December with the Deputy

Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the UAE Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan.

EAM visited Qatar from 15-16 November, calling on the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and also held talks with the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani.

On 16 February, EAM participated in the eighth Indian Ocean Conference in Muscat, where he jointly unveiled the logo marking 70 years of diplomatic relations and launched the book 'Mandvi to Muscat: Indian Community and the Shared History of India and Oman' with the Foreign Minister of Oman Sayyid Badr Albusaidi.

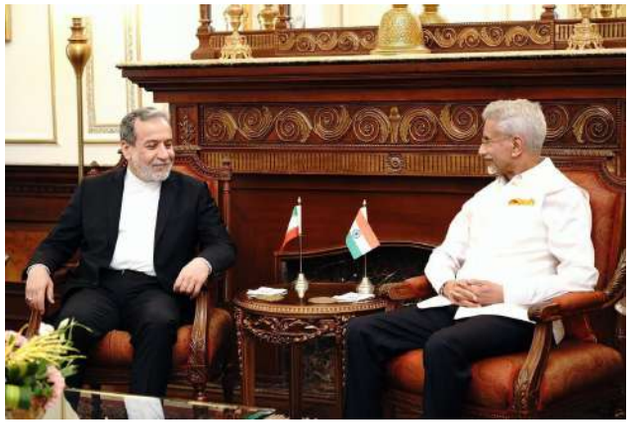
Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani visited India in November and co-chaired the fifth High Joint Commission Meeting with the EAM in New Delhi on 3 November, reviewing the full spectrum of bilateral cooperation and identifying new areas for collaboration.



EAM and Foreign Minister of Bahrain Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani co-chaired the 5th India–Bahrain High Joint Commission Meeting in New Delhi, November 2025.

Iran

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iran Abbas Araghchi visited India from 7–8 May and co-chaired the 20th India–Iran Joint Commission Meeting with the EAM. Held in New Delhi on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the India–Iran Friendship Treaty, the meeting resulted in the signing of MoUs on Medical Products Regulation and on the implementation of the Bilateral Agreement on Customs Cooperation.



EAM met Foreign Minister of Islamic Republic of Iran Abbas Araghchi during the India-Iran Joint Commission Meeting in New Delhi, May 2025

This year marked the 75th anniversary of India-Iran diplomatic ties, where key engagements, inter alia, included telephone calls between Prime Minister and Iranian President, Ministerial-level Joint Commission Meeting, meetings between EAM and Iranian Foreign Minister on the sidelines of SCO, BRICS and Indian Ocean Conference, meeting between the Speakers and Foreign Office Consultations.

During the 12-day Iran-Israel conflict, India conducted Operation Sindhu and evacuated 3,597 Indian nationals, nine Nepalese, four Sri Lankans, 14 OCI cardholders and one Iranian national, with Iran temporarily reopening its airspace to facilitate evacuation flights.

West Asia and North Africa

During the year, India continued to strengthen its bilateral relations with countries in West Asia and North Africa. High-level engagements included visits from Egypt, Israel, and Algeria, as well as visits to Jordan, Morocco, Algeria, and Egypt. The inaugural meeting of the India–Egypt Strategic Dialogue was also convened. Several working-level delegations were exchanged, contributing to the deepening of cooperation across political-security, economic, cultural, and people-to-people pillars.

Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Jordan from 15–16 December, his first full-fledged bilateral visit to the country in 37 years. The visit coincided with the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Jordan. Prime Minister held discussions with King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein and Prime Minister Jafar Hassan.

During the visit, the two sides signed an MoU on Technical Cooperation in the Field of New and Renewable Energy; an MoU on Cooperation in Water Resources Management and Development; a Twinning Agreement between Petra and Ellora; the renewal of the Cultural Exchange Programme for 2025–2029; and a Letter of Intent on cooperation in sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation.

The Raksha Mantri visited Morocco from 21–23 September, during which he and the Minister Delegate in charge of the National Defence Administration of Morocco Abdeltif Loudyi signed an MoU on defence cooperation.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt Badr Abdelatty visited India from 16 - 17 October to co-chair the inaugural India–Egypt Strategic Dialogue with the EAM.



EAM co-chaired the inaugural India - Egypt Strategic Dialogue with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt Badr Abdelatty in New Delhi, October 2025.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel Gideon Sa'ar visited India from 3-5 November and met the EAM and the NSA. Earlier in the year, the first India–Israel Cyber Policy Dialogue was held in Jerusalem in March.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel Gideon Sa'ar in New Delhi, November 2025.

The Embassy of India in Tripoli, reopened in July 2024, became fully operational during the year. Humanitarian assistance, development projects, and capacity-building remained central to India's engagement with the region. India continued to provide major development support to Palestine, with projects worth about USD 40 million, including a super-speciality hospital in Jenin, a women's empowerment centre, and the National Printing Press, and completed several QIPs as well. Sudan received 2,000 metric tonnes of rice and high-value cancer medicines; Djibouti received 20 haemodialysis units and a reverse osmosis plant as humanitarian aid; Somalia was provided 10 tonnes of medicines; and Syria received 5 metric tonnes of life-saving drugs.

Capacity-building was scaled up across the region, including 60 ITEC slots and 12 ICCR scholarships for Eritrea, 75 ITEC civilian slots for Lebanon, 42 Moroccan officials trained under ITEC, and substantial ICCR and ITEC allocations and specialised training for Palestinian and Sudanese students. India's UN peacekeeping contribution in Lebanon (INDBATT) completed 27 years of deployment, continuing medical, veterinary, and community QIP support.

Africa

During the year, India's engagement with African countries was marked by high-level diplomatic visits, trade expansion, and the promotion of development partnerships. The year saw active engagement and high-level exchanges on both sides, including the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji's State Visits to Angola and Botswana (November), the Prime Minister's visits to Ghana and Namibia (July), South Africa (November), and Ethiopia (December) and the President of Angola's State Visit to India in May.

This year, India and Angola marked 40 years of diplomatic relations. The highlight was Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji's visit to Ethiopia in November, where she also addressed the National Assembly of Angola and took part in the Independence Day celebrations. Earlier, President of Angola Joao Lourenco visited India and met Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and Prime Minister. Angola also formally joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA).

Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji's visit to Botswana in November, marked the first-ever visit to the country by an Indian Head of State. A notable outcome of the visit was the agreement on translocation of eight cheetahs presented by Botswana to India under Project Cheetah- a flagship conservation initiative of India.

Prime Minister paid a historic State Visit to Ghana on 2–3 July, the first such visit in three decades. During the visit, the signing of four MoUs further cemented bilateral ties. The Prime Minister also addressed a special session of the Parliament of Ghana, becoming the first Indian Prime Minister to do so.



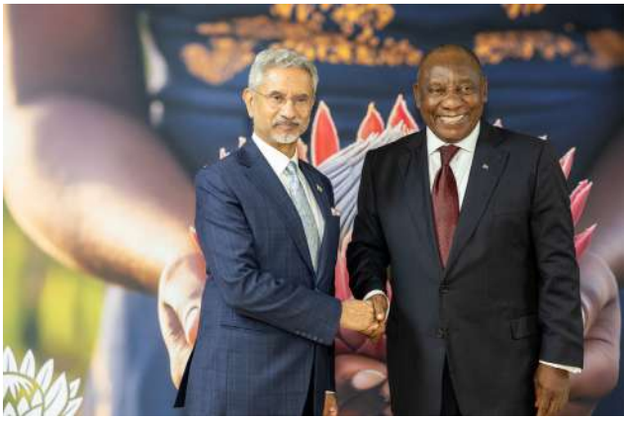
Prime Minister met President of Ghana John Dramani Mahama at the Presidential Palace in Accra, July 2025.

Prime Minister visited Namibia on 9 July, for the first time in 27 years, boosting bilateral relations between the two countries. He held talks with President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah and delivered an address at the National Assembly of Namibia. Two MoUs on cooperation in health and on setting up the India–Namibia Entrepreneurship Development Centre were signed.

India and Ethiopia elevated bilateral ties to 'Strategic Partnership' during the visit of Prime Minister in December. He met Prime Minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed and addressed a special joint session of the two houses of the Ethiopian Parliament. Earlier, the

two leaders had held a meeting on the margins of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, in November. Enhancing cooperation through ministerial engagements, Raksha Mantri and Defence Minister of Ethiopia signed an MoU on Defence Cooperation on the sidelines of Aero India in Bengaluru, and EAM met Ethiopian counterpart Gedion Timothewos on the margins of G20 Summit. Marking a milestone, India and Ethiopia held their first-ever Joint Defence Cooperation meeting in New Delhi in October.

The EAM called on President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Johannesburg in February. On the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, the EAM met the Foreign Ministers of Angola and Ethiopia. Later in the year, he met the Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone Timothy Musa Kabba on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) on 26 September. The EAM also held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eswatini Pholile Shakantu who participated in the WAVES Summit in Mumbai from 1-4 May.



EAM called on President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa on the sidelines of G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Johannesburg, February 2025

India shipped 15 haemodialysis machines, along with RO plants and consumables, as grant assistance to help Sierra Leone address the rising incidence of kidney disease. During the year, 10 ICCR scholarship slots granted to Angola were fully utilised.

Major defence-related engagements included port calls by Indian Navy and Coast Guard ships at Mombasa in September as part of a deployment under India's Vision MAHASAGAR. The visit concluded with a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Kenya Navy, reinforcing maritime interoperability. In January, INS Tushil, India's newest missile frigate, made a port call at Walvis Bay, marking the fifth Indian naval ship to visit Namibia in recent years.

Relations with Africa also saw a marked expansion in trade, finance, and capacity-building cooperation during the year. Bilateral trade rose significantly across multiple countries. India was among Ghana's top trading partners and remained the largest destination for Ghanaian exports. In 2025, bilateral trade amounted to USD 4.90 billion. Trade with Angola reached USD 5.03 billion, representing a 20 per cent increase; Côte d'Ivoire surpassed USD 1 billion with rising Indian investments in cashew and rubber processing; Cameroon recorded USD 933 million with a 31 per cent rise in Indian exports; and India–Republic of the Congo trade grew by over 83 per cent.

India extended major new lines of credit, including USD 200 million to Angola. India continued to finance key projects, such as the Niangdo Dam in Burkina Faso and a greenfield cement plant in the Republic of the Congo. Capacity-building accelerated with thousands of new ITEC training slots allocated across the region, including 2,088 for Central and West Africa, and expanded ICCR scholarships, specialised programmes for diplomats from Chad, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, and Sao Tome and Principe, and sector-specific training in public administration, defence, digital governance, and elections.

Europe and European Union

The year 2025 has been an exceptional year in India's relations with Europe. The relations with the European countries and the European Union (EU) have witnessed unprecedented momentum and a renewed focus in the present complex geopolitical circumstances. The high intensity of interactions and

exchanges pushed forward bilateral collaboration at all levels, and is reflective of greater emphasis placed by the leadership of India and European countries (and EU) on elevating the traditionally strong ties to newer heights as well as increasing consultations on key global and regional matters of mutual interest.

Prime Minister visited France to co-chair the AI Action Summit in Paris in February 2025, alongside President of France Emmanuel Macron. This was followed by the EU College of Commissioners' first-ever visit to India, led by President of European Commission Ursula von der Leyen.



Prime Minister met President of the European Commission Ursula Von Der Leyen at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, February 2025.

During the visit, the leaders expedited the India-EU FTA negotiations with a goal to conclude within a year, and the European Commission published a new Strategic Agenda on India in September 2025. Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji also paid a State Visit to Portugal in April 2025. The year featured reciprocal bilateral visits by the Prime Minister and Prime Minister of the UK Keir Starmer in July and October, respectively. The signing of the India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) marks a significant milestone in bilateral relations, opening up substantial opportunities for economic and trade collaboration.



Prime Minister and Prime Minister of UK Keir Starmer witnessed the signing of the India–UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) in London, July 2025.

Southampton University in the UK became the first foreign university to establish a campus in Gurugram under the New Education Policy. During the year, the EU was India's largest trading partner in goods, with bilateral trade exceeding USD 135 billion, Germany accounting for over 25 per cent and followed by the Netherlands. Overall, bilateral cooperation has grown in trade, investment, supply and value chains, technology, green energy, defence and security, space, nuclear energy, connectivity, education, and mobility. India also opened three new Consulates – Marseille (France), Belfast (UK), and Manchester (UK). Collaboration with Germany in education, skilling, and mobility has increased notably, with Indian professionals and students in Germany doubling over the past five years, now exceeding 60,000. The strategic partnership with France was strengthened through the signing of the Inter-Governmental Agreement (IGA) for acquiring 26 Rafale aircraft for the Indian Navy in April. Additionally, India and Italy adopted a Joint Initiative to Counter Financing of Terrorism in November.

The visit of the Prime Minister to Cyprus on 15-16 June and to Croatia on 18 June further strengthened and expanded the partnership with the important countries in the Mediterranean.

India and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA), comprising Switzerland, Iceland, Norway,

and Liechtenstein had signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) in March 2024, which entered into force on 1 October 2025. The TEPA includes a commitment of USD 100 billion in investment and the creation of 1 million jobs over the next 15 years. This landmark agreement is set to boost the Make in India initiative and create opportunities for India's young and talented workforce. Foreign Ministers of Liechtenstein, Slovenia, Georgia and Moldova participated in the 10th edition of the Raisina Dialogue, held in New Delhi in March. Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States of the Holy See visited India in July and met EAM. Foreign Minister of Cyprus Constantinos Kombos visited India from 29-31 October and held delegation level talks with EAM where both sides discussed cooperation in areas of security, defence, trade and technology.

Moreover, some of the strongest support for India following the Pahalgam terror attack came from European countries such as Germany, France and EU.

The Americas

North America

India and the United States of America share a Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership rooted in shared democratic values, strong bipartisan support, and deep people-to-people ties. Regular high-level engagements provided strategic direction to the partnership during the year.

The Prime Minister paid an official visit to the US in February. During the visit, together with President of US Donald Trump, the Prime Minister launched the US–India COMPACT to advance cooperation across defence, technology, energy, trade and investment, multilateral coordination, and people-to-people linkages. The Prime Minister was also among the first world leaders to meet President of US Donald Trump following his second-term inauguration, underscoring the priority both nations attach to this relationship.



Prime Minister visited Washington D.C. at the invitation of President of the US Donald J. Trump for an Official Working Visit, February 2025.

Focusing on leveraging Quad expertise to support the development of sustainable and resilient port infrastructure across the Indo-Pacific, the inaugural Quad Ports of the Future Partnership Conference was hosted by India in Mumbai alongside the India Maritime Week, in October.

This year witnessed high-level visits by senior US defence officials, the delivery of Apache helicopters, and a full slate of major joint exercises, including Malabar, Cope, Tiger Triumph, Tiger Claw, Sea Dragon, and Yudh Abhyas, advanced interoperability and defence industrial collaboration. Under the Quad framework, the Annual Meeting and Table Top Exercise (TTX) of the Quad Partnership on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), and third Quad Counter Terrorism Working Group meeting and TTX were held in December.

India–Canada relations are grounded in shared democratic values and extensive people-to-people ties. The Prime Minister attended the G7 Summit in Kananaskis on 17 June. On the margins of the Summit, the Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Canada Mark Carney. Both leaders

agreed to take calibrated steps to rebuild trust, including the early return of High Commissioners, the resumption of ministerial and working-level dialogues, and the development of a new roadmap focused on mutual respect and sensitivities. The leaders met again on the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg on 23 November, and agreed to begin negotiations on the CEPA.



Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister of Canada Mark Carney on the sidelines of the G7 Summit held in Kananaskis, June 2025.

Ministerial and official-level discussions addressed shared priorities, including security cooperation, trade and investment opportunities, critical minerals, civil nuclear collaboration, and digital innovation. Both sides are committed to revitalising frameworks for energy, agriculture, science and technology, and higher education. India and Canada expanded economic and energy collaboration, reaffirmed by Ministerial and delegation visits.

Latin America and Caribbean

During the year, India's relations with countries in Latin America and the Caribbean region steadily strengthened across several areas. These relations were marked by strong cooperation at regional and multilateral fora such as the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), the Central American Integration System (SICA), and the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC). Increased political engagement provided renewed momentum to these relationships.

During the year, Ecuador and India commemorated 56 years of diplomatic relations, marking an important milestone in their long-standing friendship. Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Trinidad and Tobago from 3–4 July, highlighting the importance the region holds for India. In the same month, he also visited Argentina and met President of Argentina Javier Milei. They discussed mutual interests in bilateral relations and called for enhancing cooperation in multiple sectors including energy, agriculture, science and technology, DPI and transportation.

Prime Minister's visit to Brazil in July was the first in 57 years. Agreements were signed for cooperation in the fields of security and counterterrorism, digital cooperation, renewable energy and agriculture.



Prime Minister was conferred with Brazil's highest national honour - The Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross by President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva in Brasilia, July 2025.

On the sidelines of multilateral events, the Prime Minister met President of Mexico Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo in June; President of Cuba Miguel Díaz-Canel Bermúdez and President of Bolivia Luis Alberto Arce

Catacora in July; and Prime Minister of Jamaica Andrew Holness in November.

During the year, President of Chile Gabriel Boric (April), President of Paraguay Santiago Peña Palacios (June), Vice-President and Minister of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin (October), the then Executive Vice-President of Venezuela Delcy Rodriguez (February), Prime Minister of Guyana Brigadier (Retired) Mark Anthony Phillips (March), and Deputy Prime Minister of Cuba Eduardo Martinez Diaz (March) visited India, reflecting the growing engagements in recent times.

The fifth India–SICA Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held on the sidelines of the high-level week of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on 25 September and was co-chaired by the EAM and the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama Javier Martínez-Acha in his capacity as Pro Tempore President of SICA.

The Foreign Ministers of Jamaica, Costa Rica, and Nicaragua; the Deputy Foreign Ministers of Cuba and the Dominican Republic; and the Vice Minister of Guatemala participated, along with the EAM, in the India–CELAC Expanded Troika Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New York on 26 September.

On the sidelines of UNGA in New York, the EAM met with his counterparts from Panama, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Nicaragua, Suriname, St. Lucia, Guatemala, Cuba, Costa Rica, Mexico and Jamaica. Relations with the region were enhanced by the visits of MoS (PM) to Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Ecuador, Nicaragua and Uruguay.



MoS (PM) accepted the prestigious 'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados' on behalf of Prime Minister at the Government House in Bridgetown, March 2025.

India's bilateral trade with the region increased to USD 12.539 billion during the year, a testament to the strength and potential of the economic partnership. The 10th edition of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) India–LAC Conclave was held on 19-20 March. Jaipur Foot Camps for providing prosthetic limbs to persons with disabilities were held in Guatemala, Trinidad and Tobago, and Nicaragua.

BIMSTEC and SAARC

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

BIMSTEC fulfils India's key foreign policy priorities of 'Neighbourhood First' and 'Act East'. Six summits have been held, with the latest in Bangkok in April. During the sixth BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok in April, India announced several initiatives, including centres of excellence in disaster management, sustainable maritime transport, agriculture, and traditional medicine, the BODHI skill development programme, digital public infrastructure studies, and regional cancer care capacity building.



Prime Minister participated in the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok, April 2025.

India also hosted multiple events promoting youth engagement, trade facilitation, cultural exchange, maritime security cooperation, and disaster management exercises to strengthen regional integration. This gave further momentum to regional cooperation in the Bay of Bengal Region.

South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

The 60th meeting of the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) Programming

Committee was held in Kathmandu from 28–30 April, where annual activities of SAARC regional centres and specialised bodies were finalised. India also participated in several expert-level meetings across different sectors during the year. Through these engagements, India continues to support regional cooperation, capacity-building, and development initiatives within the SAARC framework while maintaining dialogue with neighbouring countries.

United Nations and International Organisations

India continued to actively engage as a member of the United Nations (UN), playing a leading role in advocating multilateralism and the reform of the global order. The then President of the 79th session of the UNGA visited India from 4-8 February and met the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and the EAM during the visit. He also visited several sites of commercial and cultural significance in New Delhi and Bengaluru, including India Stack and the Centre for Digital Public Infrastructure. Prime Minister met Secretary-General António Guterres on the margins of the AI Action Summit in France (February) and BRICS Summit in Brazil (July).

India actively participated in the 80th session of the UNGA, with the EAM leading the Indian delegation during the high-level week and delivering India's national statement on 27 September. In his address, he emphasised India's support for an ambitious UN80 agenda, pressed for comprehensive UN reform to strengthen peacekeeping, mandate delivery, and resources for development, and reiterated India's readiness to assume greater responsibilities in a reformed Security Council.



EAM delivered India's statement at the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80) in New York, September 2025.

Earlier, EAM had attended the inauguration of the exhibition on 'The Human Cost of Terrorism' at the UN Headquarters in New York, in June. On the sidelines of the UNGA, the EAM participated in a High-Level Meeting of Like-Minded Global South countries and in ministerial interactions under the G4, G20, IBSA, BRICS, BIMSTEC, CARICOM, and CELAC frameworks. Bilateral ministerial meetings were held with a wide range of partners, including Russia, the UAE, Australia, Brazil, Canada, Italy, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, and the UK.



EAM hosted the High-Level Meeting and met Foreign Ministers of Like-Minded Global South Countries on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80) in New York, September 2025

EAM released the UN@80 commemorative stamp in the presence of the then UN Resident Coordinator of India Shombi Sharp. The stamp reflects 80 years of UN, India's contribution to peacekeeping and depicts the need for peace in the wake of multiple simultaneous conflicts across the globe.

The 20th session of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage was held in New Delhi from 8-13 December. The historic Red Fort complex, a UNESCO World Heritage Site, was chosen as the venue, symbolising the convergence of India's tangible and intangible heritage under one roof. The session projected India's leadership and global concerted efforts to protect and promote both tangible and intangible heritage.

MoS Kirti Vardhan Singh (KVS) participated in the 19th Mid-Term Ministerial Meeting of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) held in Kampala, Uganda, in October. During the visit, he called on President of Uganda General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and met Minister of Foreign Affairs Gen Jeje Odongo.



MoS (KVS) held talks with the Foreign Minister of Mozambique Maria Manuela Lucas on the sidelines of the NAM Midterm Ministerial meeting in Kampala, October 2025.

During Conference of Parties (CoP) 30 held in Belém, Brazil, India strongly advocated the protection of multilateralism and the centrality of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities in global climate action. India emphasised that climate finance remains the key enabler of ambition, calling for a clear definition of climate finance and enhanced public finance for adaptation, among other priorities.

India hosted the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in December, reinforcing the leadership in evidence-based traditional, complementary and integrative medicine.

India participated in the 116th Session of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Council and delivered a statement emphasising alignment between development and migration policies for smart outcomes.

G20

In 2025, India actively engaged across all G20 platforms under the South African Presidency, contributing to consensus-building on geopolitical and development issues, strengthening efforts to counter terrorism and its financing, and reinforcing the centrality of the development agenda, including Africa-focused priorities and the continuity of outcomes from India's own G20 Presidency.

India ensured robust participation at key G20 Ministerial meetings hosted by South Africa, with representation by EAM, Minister of Culture, MoS (PM), MoS (Commerce and Industry), and the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister. EAM led the Indian delegation to the first G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 20–21 February, delivering interventions on the global geopolitical situation and reviewing South Africa's G20 priorities. He also participated in the second G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 25 September in New York, held on the sidelines of the UNGA, making interventions on the theme 'The United Nations at 80: Reaffirming Peace as a Path to Sustainable Economic Development'. MoS (PM) led the Indian delegation to the G20 Development Ministers' Meeting on 24-

25 July in Skukuza, Mpumalanga, South Africa. The meeting adopted a Ministerial Declaration and two outcome documents: a Call to Action for Combating Illicit Financial Flows and a Call to Action on Social Protection Systems. At India's behest, the Declaration recognised 'terrorism' as a 'global crisis' for the first time in a G20 Development Ministerial Declaration.

Prime Minister participated in the G20 Leaders' Summit on 22–23 November in Johannesburg, hosted by the President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa. During this meeting, the Prime Minister proposed seven initiatives for G20 consideration: creation of a G20 Global Traditional Knowledge Repository, creation of a G20 Africa Skills Multiplier, creation of a G20 Global Healthcare Response Team, establishment of a G20 Open Satellite Data Partnership, creation of a G20 Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative, creation of a G20 Initiative on Countering the Drug–Terror Nexus, and creation of a G20 Global Framework for Talent Mobility.

These proposals reflect India's focus on fostering global collaboration, leveraging technology and knowledge, and addressing shared challenges in development, health, security, and sustainability.

Multilateral Economic Relations

BRICS

The 17th BRICS Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro on 6-7 July under the theme 'Strengthening Global South Cooperation for a More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance', saw the Prime Minister lead the Indian delegation as leaders adopted the Rio Summit Declaration and thematic documents on climate finance, AI governance, and cooperation on socially determined diseases.

India maintained active engagement across the BRICS framework throughout the year, including participation in the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting in April, the virtual BRICS Leaders' Meeting in September, and the EAM's chairing of the Foreign Ministers' Meeting as incoming Chair on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York. A wide range of ministerial meetings, in areas such as environment, agriculture, disaster management, tourism, energy, transport, trade, culture, education, youth, health, labour, communications, science and technology, and finance, resulted in joint declarations and cooperation instruments, underscoring the breadth of India's comprehensive participation in BRICS initiatives.



Prime Minister participated in the 17th BRICS Summit in Brazil, July 2025.

IBSA

Prime Minister led the Indian delegation for the IBSA Leaders' Meeting held on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, on 23 November. Prior to this, boosting ministerial engagements, EAM participated in the IBSA Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of UNGA in September.

Disarmament and International Security Affairs

This year, India remained actively engaged in the field of disarmament, non-proliferation and international security and maintained a strong and credible narrative based on its experiences and engagements in various regional and multilateral forums.

India participated actively in the meetings of the UN Disarmament Commission, Conference on Disarmament, Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC), and Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), as well as various other multilateral forums and mechanisms dealing with these issues. India also participated in the meetings of the Australia Group, Wassenaar Agreement, Missile Technology Control Regime and the Hague Code of Conduct, contributing to the global efforts towards realisation of the goals of non-proliferation.

Economic Diplomacy

The Economic Diplomacy (ED) Division served as the nodal division in MEA for processing foreign direct investment (FDI) cases, playing a facilitative role in coordination with DPIIT, Invest India, state investment agencies and Indian Missions abroad. India recorded a significant rise in FDI in the first quarter of FY 2025–26 compared to FY 2024–25, reaching USD 18.62 billion.

India has signed Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS) agreements with the UAE, Indonesia, Mauritius and the Maldives, while processes have been initiated with Qatar, Kuwait, South Africa and Kenya; similar arrangements are under consideration with Tanzania and Nigeria. The Division also coordinated with the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) and Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operationalise the Special Rupee Vostro Account (SRVA) mechanism. SRVAs are now operational in 34 countries, with several foreign banks opening accounts with Indian banks, alongside RBI MoUs with select central banks to promote local currency transactions and enhance ease of doing business and exports. Acceptance of Indian UPI apps via QR codes has been enabled in Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and the UAE.

ED Division supported the establishment of IIT campuses abroad under the New Education Policy through coordination with the Ministry of Education and the IIT Council. MoUs were concluded with the UAE for IIT Delhi (Dubai campus) and with Tanzania for IIT Madras (Zanzibar campus), both of which commenced operations, while efforts continued to expand to other countries.

India Maritime Week 2025 (27–30 October) saw ministerial participation from Singapore, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Myanmar, the Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Liberia and Antigua and Barbuda. The Division also organised business engagements during high-level visits, including a business delegation accompanying Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji to Slovakia (9–11 April); the India–Mauritius Business Conclave in Mumbai (10 September) and a business event in Varanasi (11 September) during Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam's visit; and a business interaction in New Delhi with Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Harini Amarasuriya (16 October).

India faced close to 40 investment treaty-related claims at various stages, alongside about 51 dispute notices by investors. India won four arbitrations, lost three, resolved 14 disputes amicably and had over six active disputes. India concluded 22 Social Security Agreements, with negotiations ongoing with over 20 additional countries.

In 2025, Angola, Vietnam and Mongolia signed International Solar Alliance (ISA) Framework Agreements, while instruments of ratification/ accession were received from Romania, Kuwait,

Moldova, the Dominican Republic, Lebanon, Qatar, Luxembourg and Vietnam. Overall, 126 countries have signed the ISA Framework Agreement, of which 112 have ratified it. As of October, membership of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) had grown to 51 national governments and 10 international organisations, with Costa Rica the latest entrant; India and France, as co-chairs, also extended joint demarches to 14 countries in Africa and Southeast Asia to encourage membership.

Counter Terrorism

Due to sustained efforts in the bilateral counter terrorism dialogues and multilateral engagements, India garnered greater appreciation and support of partner countries for our concerns on cross-border terrorism and state sponsored terrorism, especially in the aftermath of the Pahalgam terror attack of 22 April. The condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack and the joint resolve to bring perpetrators to justice, was reflected in joint statements on counter terrorism dialogues with partner countries including USA, France, EU, Australia and Germany and in the outcome documents at various multilateral fora, including the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) Press Statement of 25 April, the Joint Statement of QUAD Foreign Ministers Meeting on 1 July and QUAD Counter Terrorism Working Group on 5 December, the BRICS Leaders Summit Declaration on 6 July, the 4th India-Central Asia Foreign Ministers' Dialogue on 6 June, Financial Action Task Force (FATF) public document on 'Strengthening Efforts for Countering Financing of Terrorism' on 16 June.



The Quad Foreign Ministers Meeting was held at the Department of State in Washington D.C. , July 2025.

In addition, the US State Department has designated The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy of the Pakistan-based terrorist group, Lashkar-e-Taiba, as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT).

India has been at the forefront of global efforts to counter terrorism. The topic of counter terrorism found prominent mention in bilateral and multilateral meetings at all levels. India has Joint Working Groups on Counter Terrorism (JWG-CT) with 26 countries. India has also been engaging with regional and multilateral bodies such as BIMSTEC, G20, ASEAN Regional Forum, SCO, BRICS, EU, FATF and the Quad on Counter Terrorism.

It was imperative for India to send a clear, strong and resolute message after the Pahalgam terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April. Accordingly, India responded through Operation Sindoor, hitting terrorist infrastructure at nine sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. India's action through Operation Sindoor was measured, non-escalatory, proportionate and responsible. India's approach earned strong backing from the international community which supported India's actions to punish the perpetrators of cross-border terrorism as a right to self-defence.

Development Cooperation

India's development cooperation forms a central pillar of its foreign policy and reflects its broader vision of solidarity with the Global South. India's approach is demand-driven, consultative, and based on mutual benefit and respect for sovereignty, distinguishing it from many traditional aid models. Through the Development Partnership Administration (DPA) of the Ministry, India undertakes a wide range of development initiatives, including concessional finance, infrastructure projects, capacity building, humanitarian assistance, digital cooperation, and cultural heritage restoration. These initiatives span across Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Pacific Islands. A major component of India's development partnership is the provision

of concessional financing through Lines of Credit (LoCs) under the Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS) of the Ministry of Finance. These loans enable partner countries to undertake infrastructure and development projects with favourable terms.

During the year, India signed new Lines of Credit (LoC) with Angola, Mongolia, Maldives and Mauritius. A landmark development was the creation of a Rupee-denominated Line of Credit worth INR 4850 crore to the Maldives, announced during the Prime Minister's state visit. India also demonstrated support for partner countries facing financial distress. In April, India completed the debt restructuring process with Sri Lanka, helping the country recover from its economic crisis. Similarly, during the Prime Minister's visit to the Maldives, India signed an agreement reducing Maldives' annual repayment obligations to Exim Bank by approximately 40 percent, easing its fiscal burden. Several infrastructure projects financed through Indian LoCs were completed, in Guyana, Nicaragua, Maldives, Mauritius, Cameroon. India also closely monitors its development portfolio through bilateral review meetings and site visits.

India's development cooperation places strong emphasis on human resource development and knowledge sharing. This is primarily implemented through the ITEC programme, launched in 1964. During the year, approximately 14,000 training opportunities were offered to government officials and professionals from 114 partner countries, covering subjects ranging from agriculture and entrepreneurship to emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence and biotechnology.

India is promoting DPI solutions globally, including UPI, Aadhaar-based identity systems, DigiLocker, and telemedicine platforms. Several countries have signed agreements to adopt these systems, reflecting growing global interest in the India Stack ecosystem.

India's development cooperation also includes the restoration and conservation of heritage sites abroad, implemented through the Archaeological Survey of India. Major projects are underway at Ta Prohm Temple and Preah Vihear Temple in Cambodia, Vat Phou Temple in Laos, My Son temple complex in Vietnam. India is also supporting the conservation of murals, manuscripts, and historical artefacts.

India's development cooperation reflects a comprehensive and evolving model of international partnership rooted in shared growth, capacity building, and respect for national priorities. Through financial assistance, infrastructure development, training programmes, digital cooperation, and cultural heritage initiatives, India has emerged as a key development partner for the Global South. These initiatives not only strengthen bilateral relations but also reinforce India's role as a responsible global actor committed to sustainable development and international collaboration.

Policy Planning and Research

The Policy Planning and Research Division serves as the nodal division of the Ministry for medium-term policy planning, research, and outreach with the strategic and academic community. In 2025, the Division held Policy Planning Dialogues with counterpart bureaus of Poland, Indonesia and Vietnam, as well as a joint dialogue with BRICS member states. The Division spearheads four flagship initiatives, the Raisina Dialogue, Indian Ocean Conference, Asia Economic Dialogue, and Global Technology Summit, which together drew thousands of participants from across the world. The 10th Raisina Dialogue held in March attracted over 3,500 representatives from 125 countries, the Indian Ocean Conference was held in Muscat on the theme of maritime partnership, the Asia Economic Dialogue focused on economic resilience in an era of fragmentation, and the Global Technology Summit explored how emerging technologies can drive inclusive growth and digital governance.

Beyond the flagship events, the Division organised a wide range of bilateral and multilateral Track 1.5 and Track 2 dialogues throughout the year. These included the India-US Forum where Vice President of the US JD Vance delivered a virtual keynote, the India-Nordic Track 1.5 Dialogue in Reykjavik, the India-Indonesia

Track 1.5 Dialogue in Jakarta, the India-EU Track 1.5 Dialogue in Brussels, and the first-ever India-ASEAN Strategic Dialogue in Kuala Lumpur, and India-Japan Forum and India-Korea Dialogue held in Delhi and Seoul respectively, in December. The fourth Raisina Forum for Future of Diplomacy brought together 46 diplomats from 37 nations, and India-Japan and India-Korea dialogues were held in December. Numerous other outreach events were also conducted across Indian cities including Kochi, Gandhinagar, Bengaluru, Guwahati, Jaipur, Pune, Mumbai and Bhubaneswar, expanding institutional engagement with think tanks and academic institutions across different states.

The Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA)

The Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA) continued to actively advance India's foreign policy discourse, organising over 100 intellectual activities during the year including lectures, seminars, conferences and interactions with foreign dignitaries. ICWA published 63 Issue Briefs, 68 Viewpoints, 22 Special Reports and eight books covering a wide range of global and regional themes, and hosted Sapru House Lectures by visiting dignitaries including the Prime Minister of Fiji and the President of Chile. Bilateral Track 2 and Track 1.5 dialogues were held with partners in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Russia, Iran, Uzbekistan, New Zealand, Japan and Vietnam, and ICWA signed new MoUs with institutions from Ukraine, Nepal and Uzbekistan. The Sapru House Library received the ISO 9001:2015 certification, a distinction held by only a few libraries in the country, and was featured in a special documentary aired on Doordarshan.

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

The Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS) continued to serve as a key platform for South-South cooperation, policy dialogue and capacity building among developing countries. Housed within RIS, the Global South Centre of Excellence DAKSHIN organised consultations, workshops and conferences on agriculture, health, digital public infrastructure, gender-responsive budgeting and triangular cooperation, and launched a Special Lecture Series on the Global South. RIS also organised a special capacity-building course for diplomats from Kuwait, Oman and Saudi Arabia, and held seminars and roundtables on energy efficiency, blue economy, development finance, AI and emerging technologies, BIMSTEC and ASEAN cooperation.

Legal and Treaties Division

The Legal and Treaties Division continued to serve as the Ministry's primary legal arm and advisor on international law, vetting and facilitating the ratification of treaties, and representing India in multilateral negotiations spanning trade, climate, maritime law, outer space, investment arbitration, and international humanitarian law. Key engagements during the year included active participation in the UN General Assembly's Sixth Committee, The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL) working groups on investor-state dispute settlement reform, the third UN Ocean Conference at Nice, COP30 in Belém, and negotiations on the legally binding instrument on plastics pollution. On the bilateral front, the Division contributed to the signing of the India-UK CETA in July and negotiations on Free Trade Agreements with the EU, New Zealand, and Oman. Across the year, 260 agreements and treaties were signed on behalf of India, with 24 instruments of ratification issued, all indexed into the publicly accessible Indian Treaties Database which now exceeds 4,000 agreements spanning from 1950 to 2025.

E-Governance and Information Technology (EG & IT)

EG & IT Division is responsible for the implementation of various components of Digital India Programme in the Ministry and all Missions/Posts abroad to have a transparent, secure, accessible and participative IT ecosystem. Automation and network are being harnessed as tools to achieve synergy at all levels

of functioning in the Ministry and render efficient IT services to Government Officials. As an e-governance initiative for applying and issuing political clearance for visitors coming to India from abroad, a dedicated portal was developed and hosted in March. Integrated Mission Accounting System Version 2.0 (IMAS 2.0), a customised software for accounts of Indian Missions/ Posts abroad, has been rolled out to 211 Indian Missions/Posts. With this, the IMAS now covers all our Missions/ Posts that have reliable internet connectivity. The Ministry of External Affairs Online Working System (MEADOWS), an in-house application of MEA, has been further improved with additional utility modules and functional and security improvements of the platform. In addition to steering the e-governance projects, the Division has also consistently been involved in awareness generation for cybersecurity with the introduction of Cyber Jagrookta Diwas', which is observed on the first Wednesday of every month.

Consular, Passport and Visa Services

Issuance of passports has emerged in recent years as the most noticeable statutory and citizen service rendered by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Ministry has made many quantitative and qualitative improvements in the delivery of passport services. Indian Passports and e-passports, together with other travel documents such as Identity Certificates (IC), Emergency Certificates (EC) for returnees to India, Police Clearance Certificates (PCC) and Line of Control Travel Permits in Jammu and Kashmir, are issued by the Ministry of External Affairs through the Central Passport Organisation and its all India network of 37 Passport Offices, the CPV Division (only Diplomatic and Official Passports) and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration. This network has been vastly expanded by adding 93 Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode, with their total number being 545, and 452 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) in association with the Department of Posts, as extended arms of the Passport Offices.

For Indians living abroad, passports, Overseas Citizen of India (OCI) cards, EC and other miscellaneous consular services, apart from attestation of consular documents, are being rendered by the network of the 203 Indian Missions/Posts abroad, connected to the PSP system. During this year, more than 1.27 crore passports have been issued in India of which more than 89 lakhs are e-passports. Starting April this year, the CPV Division under the supervision of Joint Secretary (Consular, Passport and Visa Services) has been appointed as the Nodal Authority for Public Grievances pertaining to the MEA on Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). Pertaining to this, 20,818 grievances were received on the CPGRAMS Portal, of which 20,482 grievances, i.e. 98.4 percent were disposed of successfully during this year. The Central Passport Organisation (CPO) was created in 1959 as a subordinate office of the Ministry of External Affairs and is headed by Joint Secretary (CPV) and Chief Passport Officer, who also acts as the Appellate Authority under the Passports Act, 1967. The personnel of the CPO Cadre are deployed in 37 Passport Offices, 93 PSKs, and 452 POPSKs across the country. The sanctioned strength of CPO is 2640, and the working strength is 1721.

Emigration Policy, Welfare and Diaspora Engagement (Overseas Indian Affairs)

India holds a pivotal position in global migration dynamics, with a diaspora of over 35 million and inward remittances of USD 135 billion in 2024. The Government actively promotes safe, orderly and regular migration through a robust framework of bilateral agreements including Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreements and Labour Mobility Agreements. Key mobility agreements were advanced during the year with Russia, the UK, Fiji and Australia, while Joint Working Group meetings were held with Denmark, Germany, Japan, Oman, Qatar and Saudi Arabia to streamline labour cooperation, combat irregular migration and expand skilled mobility pathways. India also chaired the Colombo Process

for 2024-26 and participated in the 15th Global Forum on Migration and Development, reinforcing its engagement with multilateral migration governance frameworks.

On the welfare front, three flagship schemes continued to support Indian workers abroad. The Indian Community Welfare Fund has assisted over 3,61,215 nationals in distress with a total expenditure of INR 732 crores, while the Pre-Departure Orientation Training programme has trained over 2,25,110 emigrant workers through 46 centres since inception. The Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana has provided insurance coverage to over 83,88,143 migrant workers to date. A comprehensive labour market database compiled through 123 Indian Missions and Posts is being made available on the eMigrate portal to support skilling alignment and mobility planning across destination countries.

Leveraging technological advancement offered by revamped eMigrate 2.0 portal, significant reforms have been introduced in the functioning of Protector of Emigrants (POE) and Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) offices across India with the focus on ease of doing business for registered Recruiting Agents (RAs), ushering transparency, openness and equity in the processes. Major reforms include issuance of digital Registration Certificate (RC) to the RAs and system-based randomisation of Emigration Clearance (EC) across POEs and doing away with the requirement of Country Specific Order (CSO) for the recruitment of nurses in ECR countries.

India's diaspora engagement remained robust, anchored by the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention held in Bhubaneswar with over 7,500 delegates from 57 countries. The Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards on 27 distinguished diaspora members, and the Prime Minister flagged off the maiden run of the Pravasi Bharatiya Express. Other key programmes including the Know India Programme, which conducted five editions with 193 diaspora youth, the Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children, which awarded 433 scholarships, and the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora scheme, which extended financial assistance to 114 Missions and Posts, continued to deepen engagement with the global Indian community.

On the regulatory and administrative front, several reforms were introduced to improve the emigration process. Iran was added to the ECR list to protect Indian workers, and the requirement of a Country Specific Order for recruitment of nurses to ECR countries was discontinued to simplify procedures. A system-based randomised distribution mechanism for Emigration Clearance applications was introduced to make the process fully digital, faceless and transparent. During the year, 4,49,110 Emigration Clearances were issued, with the UAE, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman and Qatar being the top five destination countries, and Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Rajasthan among the top source states.

States Division

The States Division works to strengthen the external linkages of India's States and Union Territories, promoting trade, investment, tourism, academic collaboration, and other international partnerships. This is achieved through close coordination with the Governments of States and Union Territories, Indian Missions and Posts abroad, and Foreign Diplomatic and Trade Missions in India. The Division also supports the organisation of activities of States and Union Territories in foreign countries through Indian Missions and Posts abroad. Branch Secretariats, Regional Passport Offices, and Passport Offices in India contribute to the external outreach of States and Union Territories.

Through continuous liaison with Chief Secretaries and Resident Commissioners, the Division facilitates visits of foreign dignitaries, resident Ambassadors, and High Commissioners. It also supports the signing of MoUs and Letters of Intent between State Governments and their foreign counterparts in areas such as trade and investment promotion, skill development, education, health, and agricultural research.

The Division also oversees the processing and facilitation of Sister-City and Sister-State agreements, fostering friendly and cooperative relations between Indian States and cities and their international counterparts.

The New, Emerging and Strategic Technologies (NEST) Division and Cyber Diplomacy

The New, Emerging and Strategic Technology (NEST) Division has been created to advance India's technology diplomacy and to address the foreign policy and international legal dimensions associated with cutting-edge technologies. Within the Ministry, the Division functions as a nodal point for coordinating efforts in this domain. It keeps the Ministry informed on developments, works closely with domestic stakeholders, and engages with international partners at a time when technological advancements are increasingly shaping geopolitical dynamics. During the year, the Division played an active role in refining and coordinating India's positions on technology governance, reinforcing the country's role in shaping national and global approaches to emerging and strategic technologies.

During the year, India made notable progress in strengthening its key strategic technology partnerships. This included engagements under the India-UK Technology and Security Initiative (TSI), the India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC), and the India-US TRUST initiative, all of which focus on strengthening secure technology ecosystems, facilitating talent collaboration, and building resilient supply chains. During the visit of the Prime Minister of the UK Keir Starmer, to India on 8 and 9 October, both sides announced several joint initiatives in areas such as telecommunications, artificial intelligence and critical minerals.

The Division also continued to support the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) in its capacity as the designated MEA nodal office. In this role, it worked closely with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy to facilitate international cooperation on green hydrogen. As part of these efforts, officials from the Division joined the Indian delegation at European Hydrogen Week 2025, held in Brussels from 29 September to 3 October, to engage with global stakeholders and strengthen cooperation in support of India's clean energy transition.

On the invitation of the President of France Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister co-chaired the AI Action Summit in Paris on 10-11 February 2025. At the summit, the Prime Minister emphasised the importance of collective international efforts to ensure that artificial intelligence remains accessible and beneficial to all. He also highlighted the need to democratise technology, promote the use of AI to support the Sustainable Development Goals, and develop governance frameworks and standards that encourage innovation. These views found resonance among several participating countries, particularly those from the Global South.

Alongside these initiatives, the Cyber Diplomacy Division continued its engagement in bilateral cyber and digital dialogues. A cyber dialogue with Australia was held in New Delhi on 9 April, where both sides reviewed existing mechanisms of cooperation and explored areas for expanding collaboration. Discussions focused on cyber capacity-building and training, aligning national cyber strategies and policies, exchanging best practices for protecting critical information infrastructure, and cooperation in critical and emerging technologies, including the security of telecommunications networks and equipment and related technical standards. The first India-Brazil Cyber Dialogue and Digital Dialogue was later held on 25 and 26 November in Brasília, further expanding India's international cooperation in the cyber domain.

Protocol Division

In 2025, the Division facilitated 10 state visits, eight official visits at the Head of State/Head of Government (HoS/HoG) level, and 32 Vice-President/Deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister-level visits to India.

The Division also organised outbound engagements including visits by Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji to Angola, Botswana, Italy, Portugal, the Slovak Republic and the Vatican City; Hon'ble Vice President to Seychelles, and visits by Prime Minister to Argentina, Bhutan, Brazil, Canada, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Ethiopia, France, Ghana, Japan, Jordan, Maldives, Mauritius, Namibia, Oman, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Trinidad and Tobago, the UK and the US.

Notable incoming visits at the HoS/HoG level included visits by the Presidents of Singapore, Indonesia, the European Commission, Angola, Paraguay, the Czech Republic, the Philippines, Mongolia and the Russian Federation; the Prime Ministers of Bhutan, Guyana, New Zealand, Fiji, Singapore, Mauritius, the United Kingdom and Sri Lanka; the King of Bhutan, Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot) of Bhutan, and the Amir of Qatar.

External Publicity and Public Diplomacy

India's external publicity and public diplomacy were amplified during the year through the effective utilisation of digital diplomacy tools, proactive media management, and the organisation of impactful outreach initiatives. Key initiatives included the launch of a fact-check account on X, the expansion of the Ministry's social media presence, the facilitation of visits by foreign journalists, the organisation of film festivals, the commissioning of documentaries, and the promotion of Indian culture. Public engagement was enhanced through the revamped Distinguished Lecture Series, India Corners, film festivals, exhibition on 'The Human Cost of Terrorism', SAMEEP lectures, and the 'Bharat Ko Janiye' Quiz.

Administration, Establishment, Global Estate Management and RTI

Administration and Establishment

India expanded its diplomatic footprint through the establishment of one new Mission in Quito (Ecuador) and seven new Posts in Manchester (United Kingdom), Belfast (United Kingdom), Fukuoka (Japan), Boston (United States of America), Los Angeles (United States of America), Kazan (Russia) and Yekaterinburg (Russia).

This year, four new Territorial Divisions- Central America (CA), South America (SA), Northern Europe (NE), and Southern Europe (SE)- were created through the bifurcation of two existing Divisions, namely the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Division and the Central Europe (CE) Division.

The Establishment Division has been extensively involved in coordinating a large-scale shifting exercise for movement of various Divisions from South Block into Kartavya Bhavan 3 and Sushma Swaraj Bhawan (SSB). In addition, the Division has also meticulously undertaken a large number of construction, renovation, upgradation and refurbishing projects while overcoming logistical challenges with innovative solutions and collaborative efforts across teams.

Right to Information

A total of 3904 Right to Information (RTI) applications and 219 First appeals under the RTI Act 2005, were processed by the Ministry. The applications varied in subjects such as foreign relations, administrative issues, bilateral visits and other relevant topics. During the above period, a total of 110 Central Information Commission (CIC) hearings were attended by the concerned Central Public Information Officers (CPIOs) and a representative of the RTI Cell. All the hearing matters were disposed of satisfactorily.

Implementation of Official Language Policy

The Rajbhasha and Bharatiya Bhashayein, I&T (RBB, I&T) Division of the Ministry has played a significant role in promoting India's Official Language Policy by engaging with a wide range of stakeholders, including Indian diplomatic missions, the diaspora community, civil society organisations, and cultural institutions. The Division organised several key events, such as

World Hindi Day, Hindi Divas, Hindi Pakhwada, and the International Gita Mahotsav. It also appointed Hindi teachers, supplied teaching materials, collaborated with Sanskrit scholars, facilitated the translation of the Bhagavad Gita into foreign languages, provided Hindi language scholarships to international students, and extended financial assistance to support related activities. In addition, two major conferences were organised in collaboration with Nalanda University and Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, thereby promoting India's linguistic and spiritual heritage.

At the consular level, the Division conducted inspections to monitor the progressive use of the Hindi language within Regional Passport Offices (RPOs). In addition, the Parliamentary Sub-Committee on Official Language carried out inspections at four RPOs across the country. The celebration of World Hindi Day, which involved direct engagement with Indian diplomatic missions and posts abroad, emerged as a major outreach initiative for the Division. The fifth Executive Meeting of the World Hindi Secretariat, held in Port Louis, Mauritius, brought together key stakeholders and advanced initiatives aimed at international promotion of Hindi. The activities and support of the Division play a crucial role in promoting India's Official Language Policy.

Finance and Budget

The total budget allocated to the Ministry of External Affairs for the Financial Year (FY) 2025-26 was INR 20516.61 cr in the Budget Estimates (BE) stage. The largest allocation in the Ministry's budget was for Technical and Economic Cooperation (TEC) with foreign countries through assistance as grants and loans. In FY 2025-26, of the total budget of INR 20516.61 cr, the TEC outlay was 32.90 percent or INR 6750.00 cr, of which, INR 6375.00 cr (31.07 percent) was for grant programmes and INR 375.00 cr (1.83 percent) was for loans. The bulk of Ministry's Development Partnership budget, comprising about 49.19 percent, is allocated to the neighbouring countries under the Government's Neighbourhood First Policy, followed closely by allocation to the extended Indian Ocean Region (13.62 percent), extended neighbourhood (3.03 percent), Africa (3.33 percent), Latin American countries (0.89 percent). The second largest allocation in the Ministry's budget was for maintenance of Indian diplomatic Missions and Posts abroad. Of the total budget for FY 2025-26 of INR 20516.61, the bifurcation of allocations between establishment heads and non-establishment heads is 33.25 percent (INR. 6820.86 cr) and 66.75 percent (INR 13695.75 cr) respectively. The Ministry has consistently maintained its expenditure on Establishment heads within 35 percent of its total budget.

Parliament and Coordination Division

The Parliament and Coordination Division oversees parliamentary work, coordination within and outside the Ministry, monitoring and review of MoUs signed by India with foreign countries, admission of select foreign students to Indian educational institutions, and uploading the Ministry's inputs on digital portals to facilitate digital monitoring of work. The Parliament Section serves as the Ministry's interface with Parliament and acts as the nodal point for all Parliament-related matters, ensuring timely responses to issues raised in Parliament, in accordance with established guidelines.

The Coordination Section processed political clearances for visits abroad, conferences, seminars, sports events, exhibitions, and diplomatic or military flights. In April, the Ministry launched an online portal to streamline applications for political clearances for foreign nationals participating in conferences, seminars, workshops, and sports events in India.

The Division also served as the nodal unit for facilitating the visits of seven all-party delegations to key countries from late May to early June in connection with Operation Sindoor, underscoring India's collective resolve against terrorism. The Division also followed up on operationalising the Framework Agreement for the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), an initiative launched by the Prime Minister on 9 April 2023 to commemorate 50 years of Project Tiger and promote the conservation of the world's seven Big Cats. The

agreement came into force on 23 January 2025.

The Monitoring Cell coordinates the review of MoUs and agreements signed with foreign countries by various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India, assessing their continued relevance.

The Education Section of the Ministry managed the selection, nomination, and admission of foreign students from 57 friendly neighbouring and developing countries for MBBS, BDS, B.Arch, B.E, B.Tech, B. Pharmacy, and Diploma courses in Engineering and Pharmacy at various government institutions in India. The Education Section also processed political clearances for foreign students attending elective training, observerships, and short or long-term training programmes, as well as those appearing in various postgraduate medical and allied entrance examinations.

Conference and Summits Division

The Conference and Summits Division provided comprehensive logistical support for high-level international and multilateral events hosted at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan and other venues in 2025. Key events included the First India-League of Arab States (LAS) Universities Presidents Conference on 5-6 February, Quad Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness on 17-19 March, 11th International Day of Yoga on 21 June, and Third QUAD Counter-Terrorism Working Group Meeting with Sixth Table Top Exercise on 4-5 December. The Division also facilitated around 450 MEA internal meetings and 50 inter-ministerial engagements at SSB, ensuring seamless execution even at short notice.

Rapid Response Cell

India's humanitarian outreach in 2025 demonstrated its steadfast commitment to serving humanity and supporting its partners during times of crisis. Reinforcing its role as a reliable first responder and a credible provider of humanitarian assistance and disaster relief (HADR), India extended timely support to over 40 partner countries across Asia, Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and the Pacific. In line with the Neighbourhood First policy, priority was given to countries in both the immediate and extended neighbourhoods.

Major operations, such as Operation Sagar Bandhu in Sri Lanka in response to Cyclone Ditwah and Operation Brahma following the devastating earthquake in Myanmar, showcased India's ability to mobilise rapid, whole-of-government relief efforts. India also continued to provide sustained humanitarian support to Afghanistan, including relief supplies, food assistance, vaccines, and medical equipment.

Throughout the year, India's assistance highlighted its expanding global humanitarian presence and solidarity with the Global South. Relief efforts following Hurricane Melissa reached countries in the Caribbean, including Jamaica and Cuba, while humanitarian and health assistance were offered to Pacific Island Countries under the FIPIC framework. These initiatives, along with support to countries across Africa, West Asia, and Latin America, demonstrated India's commitment to the spirit of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam and South-South cooperation, further establishing its role as a dependable partner in addressing humanitarian emergencies worldwide.

Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service

This year has been defined by digital transformation and diversification. With the launch of the Digital Learning Management System (LMS) on 1 January, SSIFS has now developed a digital repository of course materials, digital alumni lists, digital institutional memory, AI-enabled training techniques, and efficient and transparent assessment processes. This year, the Institute conducted 15 training programs for foreign diplomats including five thematic, five bilateral and five regional programs. This showcased the diversity of our partnerships, with 500 diplomats and officers from over 105 countries benefiting from these carefully curated programs. This year, we

added another nine to our list of International MoUs , taking the number to 108 from 99 at the beginning of 2025. Within the country, SSIFS developed 12 new partnerships in terms of programs with a 'whole of nation approach' to capacity building. This year also brought for SSIFS, distinction in terms of expansion of visiting faculty to include new domains of knowledge such as AI and emerging technologies, focus on behavioural competencies, and connect with our foundations through Indian Knowledge System relevant to Diplomacy.

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)

The Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) continued to promote cultural exchanges and global outreach of India's soft power. ICCR celebrated the 75th anniversary of its establishment on 9 April in the presence of EAM. During the year, ICCR offered 4047 scholarships to foreign nationals under its 21 Scholarship Schemes, including 1000 scholarships for Afghan nationals to pursue online undergraduate and postgraduate courses. ICCR also sponsored 688 artists from India to 67 countries around the world, and hosted about 400 foreign artists from 30 countries in various cultural events in India. ICCR gifted nine busts and statues of iconic Indian leaders to various countries and hosted 63 delegates from 12 countries under its various Visitors Programmes. ICCR continued to support 38 Indian Cultural Centers (ICCs) in different parts of the world. During the year, ICCR also set up 10 ICCR Chairs of Indian Studies in foreign universities. ICCR in its efforts to strengthen global cultural engagement, remained active across its network of 38 Indian Cultural Centres abroad, five zonal offices, four sub-zonal offices and two regional offices in India, undertaking regular programming alongside new initiatives and special events.

Nalanda University

Nalanda University continued to consolidate its role as a modern international institution rooted in Asia's civilisational heritage. The year marked the first full year of operations at its 455-acre Net-Zero Green Campus in Rajgir, following its inauguration by the Prime Minister in June 2024.

Supported by 18 East Asia Summit countries, the University strengthened its academic and governance framework through the appointment of a new Vice-Chancellor, operated six multidisciplinary schools and several specialised Centres, and announced the establishment of a Centre for Southeast Asian Studies to deepen Indo-Pacific academic engagement.

Student enrolment reached 1,268, including 332 international students from over 22 countries, supported by 363 scholarships under ASEAN, BIMSTEC, Bhutan, and endowed schemes, while faculty strength stood at 76. Campus infrastructure expanded substantially, with fully functional academic blocks, hostels, an auditorium, sports and residential facilities, and a Central Library nearing completion.

Academic activity remained robust through research, fieldwork, conferences, and community outreach, complemented by growing international collaborations. The year witnessed the signing of over 50 MoUs worldwide and active participation in the ASEAN–India Network of Universities, alongside global outreach engagements in New York and Washington, D.C., focussed on sustainable development, knowledge diplomacy, and Digital Public Goods.

Archives and Record Management

The Archives and Records Management (A & RM) Division manages the Ministry's archival records and maintains a repository of approximately 1.85 lakh physical files of historical and administrative value, overseeing appraisal, preservation, digitisation, and transfer of records to National Archives of India (NAI). This year, it migrated digitised archival data to a new server with TIF-to-PDF conversion, OCR, and metadata creation, which was inaugurated in March. The division circulated the revised Records Retention Schedule (RRS) 2024, replacing the 2012 version, with updated retention guidelines. It reviewed 3,930

files and transferred 1,145 of historical importance to NAI for preservation and public access. Additionally, 5,381 files over 25 years old were sent for review and declassification. The division also weeded out 2,265 obsolete files, including efforts under Swachhta Campaign 5.0, to improve storage and record organisation.

CHAPTER

1

India's Neighbourhood

Afghanistan

India shares deep historical and cultural ties with Afghanistan. As its contiguous neighbour, India's approach to Afghanistan has been guided by its long-standing friendship and special relationship with the Afghan people. Additionally, India's pragmatic approach to engaging with the Afghan government has helped it facilitate humanitarian assistance and address the development needs of the Afghan people.

High-Level Visits

EAM and Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Amir Khan Muttaqi interacted thrice in 2025. On 16 May, EAM held a telephonic conversation with Foreign Minister Muttaqi. During the conversation, the Foreign Minister strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam. EAM expressed deep appreciation for the condemnation and welcomed Minister Muttaqi's firm rejection of attempts to create distrust between India and Afghanistan through false and baseless reports. EAM again spoke to Minister Muttaqi on 1 September and 3 November, expressing condolences for the lives lost in the earthquakes. India, as a first responder, sent earthquake relief materials to Afghanistan.

Foreign Minister Muttaqi visited India on 9-15 October. Apart from his bilateral engagement with EAM, Minister Muttaqi also visited Darul Uloom in Deoband. Separately, he interacted with Indian traders, journalists, think-tanks, members of the Afghan community, and representatives of Afghan Hindu and Sikh communities. Minister Muttaqi expressed his understanding of India's security concerns and reiterated the Afghan government's commitment to not allow any group or individual to use its territory against India. He also emphasised the need to respect each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity. In keeping with the decision announced during the visit, the Government of India restored the status of the Technical Mission of India in Kabul to that of Embassy of India in Afghanistan w.e.f. 21 October.

Minister Muttaqi's visit provided an opportunity to discuss issues of mutual concern and to review inter-alia the progress of India's ongoing humanitarian assistance programmes to Afghanistan, including in the fields of healthcare, capacity-building, public infrastructure, disaster relief, food security, energy security and reconstruction of residential buildings in the earthquake affected areas, to name a few. India also gifted 20 ambulances to help strengthen emergency medical services for the Afghan people.



Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Amir Khan Muttaqi met EAM in New Delhi, October 2025.

As part of ongoing high-level engagements, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi visited India on 19-25 November, accompanied by a trade delegation. During the visit, Minister Azizi met EAM and held delegation level talks with the Minister of Commerce and Industry. They discussed a broad range of issues, including trade facilitation, market access, connectivity, and capacity-building. They announced the initiation of the Air Freight Corridor on the Kabul-Delhi and Kabul-Amritsar sectors, welcomed the reactivation of the Joint Working Group on Trade, Commerce and Investment and agreed to explore opportunities for collaboration in mining and other high-value sectors. The Ministers also agreed to depute Commercial Representatives at their respective Embassies and to institutionalise a Joint Chamber of Commerce and Industry. During his visit, Minister Azizi also met the MoS (Commerce and Industry).

Separately, during his visit, Minister Azizi attended the India International Trade Fair (IITF 2025), where several Afghan traders had set up stalls. Minister Azizi's delegation held meetings with the representatives from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Cotton Corporation of India (CCI), Apparel Export Promotion Council (AEPC), Manmade and Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATEXIL), PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI), Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM), and Pharmaceutical Export Promotion Council of India (PHARMEXCIL). They discussed modalities for the long-term supply of agricultural products, medicines, and other essential commodities to Afghanistan.



EAM met Minister of Industry and Commerce of Afghanistan Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi in New Delhi, November 2025.

Minister of Public Health of Afghanistan Mawlawi Noor Jalal Jalali visited India on 16-21 December to participate in the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine held in New Delhi. On the sidelines, he held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Health and Family Welfare. India reaffirmed its

commitment to continued humanitarian assistance and healthcare cooperation, with a focus on the long-term supply of medicines. A symbolic handover of cancer medicines and vaccines was made, reflecting India's continued support to the medical needs of the Afghan people. A larger consignment of medicines, vaccines, and a 128-slice CT scanner is was dispatched to Afghanistan to strengthen its healthcare system. During his visit, Minister Jalali also met MoS (KVS). During the meeting, both sides discussed ongoing healthcare-related development projects, formation of a Joint Working Group on Health, establishment of cancer treatment facilities in Afghanistan, and sending a team of medical doctors to Afghanistan for capacity-building programmes for Afghan doctors. Separately, Minister Jalali met with the MoS (Independent Charge), Ministry of Ayush. Both sides discussed opportunities for knowledge exchange and cooperation in education, research, and regulation of traditional medicines, with the aim of strengthening Afghanistan's healthcare system.



MoS (KVS) met Minister of Public Health of Afghanistan Mawlawi Noor Jalal Jalali in New Delhi, December 2025.

The Afghan delegation led by Minister Jalali also visited AIIMS, New Delhi and a few other hospitals to gain an understanding of India's tertiary healthcare system. A technical visit to Centre of Excellence in Unani Medicine, Jamia Hamdard University, was also arranged. The delegation also held meetings with the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI), and Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation Limited (India). They also participated in interactive business sessions with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI), PHDCCI and PHARMEXCIL.

Foreign Secretary met Minister Muttaqi in Dubai on 8 January, to review India's ongoing humanitarian assistance programmes in Afghanistan. The Foreign Minister appreciated and thanked the Indian government for continuing to engage and support the people of Afghanistan.

Humanitarian assistance

India has been consistently extending humanitarian aid to Afghanistan and over the past four years, India has supplied around 50,000 tonnes of wheat, 327 tonnes of medicines and vaccines, 40,000 litres of pesticide, 69 tonnes of earthquake relief materials and 45 tonnes of food items. Following the earthquakes that struck in August and November, India supplied 42 tonnes of earthquake relief materials and 60 tonnes of food items and 73 tonnes of medicines to Afghanistan. In partnership with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), India has provided over 68 tonnes of medical supplies and 32 tonnes of social support items for the rehabilitation of drug addicts in Afghanistan. India organized a Jaipur Foot Camp in June in Kabul, during which 75 prosthetic limbs were successfully fitted to Afghan nationals, an initiative that received wide-appreciation from both local and international communities.



India extended relief assistance to Afghanistan in the wake of the earthquake in the Kunar Province, September 2025.

Development cooperation, Capacity Building and Human Resource Development

India is undertaking several development projects, including construction of hospitals and maternity health clinics, Thalassemia Centre, Modern Diagnostic Centre, Oncology Centre, Trauma Centre etc.

India continues to provide online scholarships to Afghan students for undergraduate and postgraduate courses at renowned Indian universities.

The Government of India launched a new visa module on 29 April, to further facilitate visa processing for Afghan nationals.

Bangladesh

India and Bangladesh share deep bonds rooted in history, language, culture, and many shared traditions. Over the years, this relationship has grown into a broad-based partnership encompassing political and security cooperation, trade and economic ties, development partnership, as well as cultural and people-to-people exchanges. Today, Bangladesh stands as India's largest trading partner in South Asia, while India remains Bangladesh's largest export destination within Asia.

Even as Bangladesh's political landscape witnessed a significant transition in July 2024, the bilateral relationship between India and Bangladesh remains anchored in its deeply people-centric character and the positive inter-dependencies built over decades. High level interactions and bilateral institutional mechanisms continue to be held post August 2024. In December 2025, in view of the security situation in Bangladesh, India expressed strong concerns at the attacks on minorities in Bangladesh and conveyed its expectations that the interim Government would ensure the safety of Indian Mission and Posts in Bangladesh in keeping with its diplomatic obligations.

The common economic aspirations of India and Bangladesh and their strong people-to-people ties mandate the need to sustain the momentum of the bilateral relations for mutual benefit. The shared prosperity of India and Bangladesh will rely on stable, positive and constructive engagement between the two governments.

High-Level Visits

Prime Minister met Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok on 4 April. Prime Minister was the first Head of Government to convey condolences at the loss of lives in the tragic air crash in Dhaka on 21 July. He also conveyed assurances of immediate support and assistance for the early recovery of the injured. On 23 July, a burn-injury specialist team from India reached the National Institute of Burn and Plastic Surgery (NIBPS) in Dhaka offering critical inputs on treatment methodology to the Bangladeshi doctors treating the victims. Prime Minister also extended his condolences on the passing of former Prime Minister and Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP) Chairperson Begum Khaleda Zia.



Prime Minister met Chief Advisor Muhammad Yunus on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok, April 2025.

EAM met Foreign Affairs Adviser of Bangladesh Touhid Hossain on the sidelines of the 8th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) held in Muscat, Oman on 16 February. EAM visited Dhaka to represent the Government of India at Begum Zia's state funeral and a paid tribute to the former Prime Minister on 31 December. During this visit, EAM handed over a personal letter from Prime Minister to Begum Khaleda Zia's son and Acting Chairperson of the BNP Tarique Rahman.



EAM met Foreign Affairs Adviser of Bangladesh Touhid Hossain on the sidelines of the 8th Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) held in Oman, February 2025.

Development Cooperation

As on date, Bangladesh is India's largest development partner. Since 2014, India has extended LoCs worth USD 6.5 billion to Bangladesh for infrastructure development across key sectors such as roads, railways, shipping, and ports. A comprehensive review of ongoing and completed LOC projects was jointly undertaken on 5–6 March. High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs) continue to serve as a vital pillar of India's development cooperation in Bangladesh, encompassing the construction of student hostels, academic and training institutes, cultural centres, orphanages, and initiatives for preserving shared cultural heritage. The Akhaura–Agartala cross-border rail link, implemented under India's grant assistance, was formally handed over to Bangladesh on 30 June 2024. Following the Defect Liability Period, the Defects Correction Certificate was issued on 24 July 2025, marking the successful completion of the project.

Security and Border Management

There has been active cooperation between relevant agencies of both countries in countering trans-border crimes such as illicit drug trafficking, fake currency and human trafficking, to name a few. Bilateral cooperation also covers cooperative management mechanisms for the security of the 4,096 kms long international border between India and Bangladesh through border fencing, joint inspection of boundary pillars, and joint boundary demarcation, including of riverine boundaries. India seeks cooperation from Bangladesh border authorities to complete border fencing as a sustainable measure to ensure border security.

Other bilateral mechanisms including - the DG-level talks between Border Guarding Forces and DG-level talks between nodal Drugs Control Agencies are held regularly. The 56th DG-level BGB-BSF border conference took place in Dhaka on 25-28 August, pledging deeper coordination to maintain peace along the border. The 46th Joint Boundary Conference (Mizoram sector) was held in Dhaka on 9-11 September.

River Water Sharing and Flood Management

India and Bangladesh share 54 trans-boundary rivers and bilateral meetings of the Joint River Commissions (JRC) for sharing of Ganges water are held regularly. The 88th Meeting of the JRC on sharing of Ganges

waters was held in Delhi on 8-10 September. The delegations were led by the JRC Members of both countries. With the increasing risks of floods and droughts, through mutual understanding between both countries, India's Ministry of Water Resources also shares transboundary river water levels and flood forecasting data with the relevant authorities from Bangladesh on a real-time basis to enable preventive measures and improve flood control.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Bangladesh is India's biggest trade partner in South Asia and India is the second biggest trade partner of Bangladesh in Asia. India exported USD 11.49 billion of goods to Bangladesh in 2024-25 while its imports from Bangladesh were valued at USD 2.00 billion for the same period. The total bilateral trade in FY 2024-25 was reported at USD 13.49 billion and the bilateral trade for the period April-October 2025 stood at USD 7.42 billion.

Connectivity

Connectivity has been a priority area of bilateral cooperation. Both sides are working to facilitate seamless movement of people and goods, both in bilateral and sub-regional contexts. Efforts are being made to revive the rail, road and waterways that traditionally linked the people and economies on both sides as well as establish new connectivity links.

India and Bangladesh are jointly undertaking dredging of two critical stretches of the Brahmaputra and Kushiyara river on the India-Bangladesh Protocol routes. This is an ongoing project under grant assistance, aimed at boosting connectivity of the North-Eastern states of India with Bangladesh as well as the rest of the country. Additionally, India supplied 420 railway freight wagons to Bangladesh Railway. Both countries are also working towards the implementation of Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement to boost sub-regional connectivity.

The Inter-Governmental Railway Meeting (IGRM) between India and Bangladesh was held in New Delhi on 20-22 January. The meeting featured discussions on the comprehensive set of issues related to railway connectivity between both nations. At present, there are six cross country rail links between India and Bangladesh. Freight Train movement between India and Bangladesh is ongoing through cross border rail links, while passenger train movement between the two countries has been halted since 19 July 2024, in view of the current security scenario in Bangladesh. On the bus connectivity, there are five approved Bus Protocol Routes between India and Bangladesh. However, given the current security scenario in Bangladesh only two buses are plying between Dhaka-Kolkata-Dhaka.

Power and Energy Cooperation

Cooperation in Power and Energy sector has emerged as one of the crucial pillars of India-Bangladesh relations. Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) was registered as a G2G supplier in 2023 and is supplying Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) products to Bangladesh.

The Joint Working Group (JWG)/Joint Steering Committee (JSC) on Power provides an institutional framework to promote bilateral cooperation in cross-border trade of electricity between the two countries. Bangladesh is currently importing 2750 MW of power from India. The Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant (2 x 600 MW) is operational and has been supplying electricity to the Bangladesh grid.

A tripartite Power Sale Agreement between Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA), NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd. (NVVN) and Bangladesh Power Development Board (BPDB) was operationalised in November 2024. On 15 June, power trade of 40 MW electricity commenced from Nepal to Bangladesh through the Indian grid.

Capacity Building and Human Resource Development

Since 2014, more than 7240 civil servants and 1250 judicial officers have been trained at Indian Institutions in the fields of administration including police, customs, narcotics detection, science and technology, agriculture and wild life conservation under the aegis

of Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme. In the FY 2024-25, 65 government employees / professionals attended various ITEC courses in India.

In the past three years, around 1544 Bangladeshi students were awarded Suborno Jayanti Scholarship (SJS) and Lata Mangeshkar Dance and Music Scholarship under Indian Council of Cultural Relations (ICCR), which provides fully funded scholarships in prominent educational institutes in India. In the academic year 2025-26, 543 Bangladeshi students were awarded the ICCR scholarships while 7 students were granted the Ayush Scholarship. Additionally, around 2359 Bangladeshi students have been offered visa under the Self Financing Program to various Institutions in India since January till date.

Cultural Cooperation

Cultural cooperation between India and Bangladesh has continued through various collaborative efforts. Sahitya Akademi of India honoured Rajshahi University's Professor Shafiqunnabee Samadi with the 'Premchand Fellowship' for his contributions to comparative literature in Bangla and Hindi. 'Priyo Maloti', a feature film from Bangladesh participated in International Film festival of India in Goa, under the 'Cinema of World' section. Two Bangladeshi groups consisting of 10 dancers and 3 artisans travelled to India to participate at the 38th Surajkund International Crafts Mela held in Faridabad, Haryana on 7-23 February. A Bangladeshi cultural group participated in the 10th India-International Dance & Music Festival organized by ICCR in Gujarat on 27 February. The High Commission of India and the Indira Gandhi Cultural Centre (IGCC) celebrated the International Day of Yoga on 21 June in Dhaka, with Yoga demonstrations by six prominent yoga institutions of Bangladesh.

A media delegation comprising members from the Diplomatic Correspondents Association of Bangladesh (DCAB) undertook a visit to India in October. Lalon Sandhya was organized on 16 October, commemorating the death anniversary of Bengali mystic poet Lalon Shah Fakir and paying musical tribute to Farid Parveen, who popularised Lalon Geeti in Bangla and Hindi. Birth Centenary of renowned Bengali filmmaker Ritwik Ghatak was celebrated on 20 November with the screening of his film 'Meghe Dhake Tara'. The 54th Maitri Diwas was celebrated in ICC Gulshan on 6 December to commemorate the day in 1971 when India recognised Bangladesh as a sovereign state.

Exchange of Fishermen

In January, India and Bangladesh mutually facilitated the release of 95 Indian fishermen, and 90 Bangladeshi fishermen in a reciprocal exchange. In December, both governments completed the release and repatriation of 47 Indian and 38 Bangladeshi fishermen.



India and Bangladesh completed the reciprocal release and repatriation of 47 Indian and 38 Bangladeshi fishermen, December 2025.

Bhutan

India and Bhutan share a distinguished partnership, characterised by ties of friendship and collaborative engagement. Benefiting from the outcomes of high-level meetings, this year saw sustained progress across the entire spectrum of bilateral cooperation, including economic cooperation, trade, connectivity, energy, capacity building, youth exchanges, development partnership, health, fintech, environment, and people-to-people ties.

The tradition of regular high-level visits between the two sides witnessed renewed momentum in 2025. This year witnessed incoming visits of the King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot) of Bhutan, Prime Minister of Bhutan Dasho Tshering Tobgay, as well as several ministerial visits. These engagements provided an impetus to further enhance and strengthen multi-sectoral cooperation.

As Bhutan progressed in implementing its 13th Five-Year Plan (2024-2029), India continued to uphold its commitment to contribute towards the former's development priorities through Project-Tied Assistance (PTA), High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs), and Economic Stimulus Programme (ESP). Energy cooperation between India and Bhutan also achieved a significant milestone with the completion of the 1020 MW Punatsangchhu-II hydropower project in Bhutan.

India-Bhutan trade continued to grow during the year and India remained Bhutan's top trading partner, both as an import source and as an export destination. The year also witnessed an advancement in sectoral cooperation including in border management, defence, health, education, capacity building, environment, sports, space, judiciary, and fintech.

High-Level Visits

Prime Minister of India paid a State Visit to Bhutan on 11-12 November. During the visit, he attended the 70th birth anniversary celebrations of the Fourth King of Bhutan on 11 November as the Guest of Honour and participated in the Global Peace Prayer Festival in Thimphu. Prime Minister and the King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck paid respects to the Holy Piprahwa Relics of Lord Buddha from India that were on exposition in Bhutan on 8-25 November, and jointly inaugurated the 1020 MW Punatsangchuu-II Hydroelectric Project, a major milestone in the vibrant and growing mutually beneficial energy partnership between India and Bhutan.

The King of Bhutan Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck visited India twice this year. In February, the King paid a special visit to India to attend the Maha Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj. During his second visit in April, the King visited Assam to view the facilities at the Inland Waterways Terminal (IWT) and the Multi Modal Logistics Park at Jogighopa. In February, Prime Minister of Bhutan Dasho Tshering Tobgay visited New Delhi as Guest of Honour and the keynote speaker at the SOUL Leadership Conclave. The Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot) of Bhutan visited India in September to preside over the consecration ceremony of the Royal Bhutan Temple at Rajgir, Bihar, which also saw participation of the Prime Minister Tobgay. During the same visit, Prime Minister Tobgay also visited the Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Temple at Ayodhya.

The Chief Justice of India (CJI) paid a visit to Bhutan on 22-26 October. His visit was aimed at enhancing exchanges and cooperation between the judiciaries of India and Bhutan under the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed in October 2024. The two sides considered cooperation in applications of digital technology, sharing judicial practices and legal education. During his visit, CJI also addressed the Jigme Singye Wangchuck School of Law Research Centre's Fifth Wisdom for Future Talk Series in Thimphu and the Third Distinguished Speaker's Forum at Paro. The Chief Justice of Bhutan Lyonpo Norbu Tshering visited New Delhi on 23-27 November to attend the Supreme Court of India's Constitution Day Programme. The two visits further strengthened cooperation, mutual goodwill and respect between the two judiciaries and helped in furthering the ties of cooperation and goodwill between the two judiciaries.

Regular Ministerial meetings continued to enable the two sides to strengthen cooperation in various areas. Minister of Industry, Employment and Commerce Lyonpo Namgyal Dorji visited New Delhi for the Bhutan Investment Roadshow in January and for the inauguration of Jogighopha Multi-Modal Logistics Park in Assam in February. Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Lyonpo Younten Phuntsho represented the Royal Government of Bhutan and also participated in the Bengal Global Business Forum in Kolkata and at Advantage Assam 2.0 in Guwahati in the same month.



The Je Khenpo (Chief Abbot) of Bhutan presided over the consecration ceremony of the Royal Bhutan Temple at Rajgir in Bihar, September 2025.

Minister of Foreign Affairs and External Trade of Bhutan Lyonpo D. N. Dhungyel participated in the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi in March and the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit in Mumbai in May. Home Minister of Bhutan Lyonpo Tshering attended the Dharma Dhamma Conference in Ahmedabad in September.

The Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment met the Minister of Home Affairs and called on the Prime Minister of Bhutan in November in Thimphu. The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs had an audience with the King of Bhutan in November in Thimphu. He also called on the Prime Minister of Bhutan during the visit.

Foreign Secretary visited Bhutan in October to review the entire spectrum of the special and multifaceted India-Bhutan partnership. Similarly, Foreign Secretary of Bhutan Pema Choden visited India twice - in June and September for bilateral consultations.

Trade

India continued to account for about 80% of Bhutan's global trade. India-Bhutan merchandise trade recorded a healthy growth, increasing from INR 10,787 Cr in 2023-24 to INR 16,125 Cr in 2024-25. India's exports to Bhutan rose from INR 7,979 Cr to INR 10,696 Cr while imports from Bhutan increased from INR 2,807 Cr in 2023-24 to INR 5,428 Cr in 2024-25. In line with bilateral free trade agreement and special relations, India has notified special exemption for Bhutan with regard to export of essential agricultural commodities such as non-basmati rice, wheat, sugar, milk, potato, tea, areca nut among others. Building on previous achievements in fintech connectivity of BHIM application and RuPay cards in Bhutan, an important milestone was reached this year. Bhutan now accepts payments from Indian visitors through major UPI apps- BHIM, PhonePe, Paytm, and Google Pay using the existing National QR system.



Foreign Secretary held consultations with his Bhutanese counterpart Pema Choden during her visit to New Delhi, September 2025.

Connectivity

India and Bhutan signed an Inter-Governmental MoU for the 'Establishment of Railway Links between India and Bhutan' in September. The MoU follows-up on the high-level discussions between India and Bhutan on establishing railway linkages, and envisages establishment of the Kokrajhar-Gelephu and Banarhat-Samtse rail links, aimed at connecting the people and economy of both countries. The first meeting of the bilateral Project Steering Committee under the MoU was held in November in New Delhi.

Secretary (Department of Border Management), Ministry of Home Affairs visited Bhutan for the 14th Secretary-Level Meeting on Border Management and Security Issues held in October. During his visit, the Secretary called on the Prime Minister and Home Minister of Bhutan. In keeping with the bilateral commitment to enhance border infrastructure, both countries are working towards establishment of the Integrated Check Posts at several locations along the India-Bhutan border. Director General Border Roads (DGBR) visited Bhutan in July to review the ongoing and planned road infrastructure projects being undertaken under Project Dantak.

Development Cooperation

The Government of India's development support of INR 10000 Crore for Bhutan's 13th FYP period (2024-29) continued to be implemented in cooperation between the two governments. The second tranche of 10 projects amounting to INR 1113 Crore under India's Project Tied Assistance, was agreed between the two sides, following the first tranche of 61 projects amounting to INR 5537 Crore. The second batch of 297 High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs) amounting to INR 406 Crore, was agreed between the two sides in 2025. The total number of agreed HICDPs between the two countries during the 13th Plan period currently stands at 572, and amounts to INR 847 Crore.

Foreign Secretary of Bhutan Pema Choden visited India in July to co-chair the fourth India-Bhutan Development Cooperation Talks of the 13th Five Year Plan. Notable developmental projects completed in Bhutan with India's assistance this year include - Tsirang Multi-Sports Hall, Kheri-Pam Crafts Outlet, Nganglam Water Treatment Plant and Chokeydensa Water Supply Scheme.

Energy Cooperation

Cooperation in the hydropower generation and supply sector is an important pillar of India-Bhutan ties. The commissioning of all six units of the 1020 Mega Watt (MW) Punatsangchhu-II hydroelectric power project, built with Indian assistance was completed in August. The project was jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister and the King of Bhutan on 11 November during the former's visit to Bhutan. The two sides have reached an understanding on the resumption of work on the main dam structure of 1200 MW Punatsangchhu-I hydroelectric project, which was announced during Prime Minister's visit to Bhutan.

Chairperson of India's Central Electricity Authority (CEA) visited Bhutan in June and held talks with his counterpart to review aspects of India-Bhutan electricity trade.

In accordance with the 2024 Joint Vision Document on the India-Bhutan Energy Partnership, Indian entities in the energy sector entered into strategic partnerships with the Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC), Bhutan's state-owned enterprise for development of hydropower and other energy projects in Bhutan. Power Finance Corporation Ltd, India's leading non-banking financial company in the power sector, signed a credit agreement for the development of the 600 MW Khorlochhu hydroelectric power project in Bhutan which is being jointly developed by DGPC and Tata Power.

Defence Cooperation

Chief of the Army Staff of India visited Bhutan in June. Chief Operations Officer of the Royal Bhutan Army Lieutenant General Batoo Tshering paid an official visit to India in February, where he visited Gaya, New Delhi and Kolkata. Lt General Batoo Tshering also participated in the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries' Chiefs Conclave, held in New Delhi on 13-16 October.

Health Cooperation

Bilateral cooperation in the health sector progressed during the year through further support for development of healthcare facilities and augmentation of healthcare services in Bhutan. During Prime Minister's visit to Bhutan in November, the two sides signed two MoUs- a framework MoU on cooperation between the two Health Ministries, and an MoU on

mental health services between National Institute of Mental Health and Neurosciences, Bengaluru and the PEMA Secretariat, Bhutan. 20 Indian nurses joined the National Referral Hospital in Thimphu.

Agriculture and Allied Sectors

Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare visited Bhutan in August and signed the MoU to further strengthen cooperation in the fields of agriculture and allied sectors. During his visit, he also held the first session of the Joint Technical Working Group (JTWG), under the MoU.

Education Cooperation, Capacity Building and People-to-People Ties

India remains Bhutan's steadfast partner in capacity building of government officials and professionals/ entrepreneurs in various fields. Bhutan is allotted 325 training seats for upgrading administrative and technical skills of officials and experts under India's ITEC programme. Bhutanese civil service officers join their Indian counterparts at premier Indian training institutions and academies every year. During the year, the Government of India conducted customised training programmes for officials of Bhutan's Election Commission, Parliament, Judiciary, Agriculture, Animal Husbandry, creative sector and energy professionals.

The Government of India provides over 1500 annual scholarships to Bhutanese students for studying in India, across a wide range of disciplines including engineering, medicine, pharmacy, natural and social sciences under various scholarship schemes. Under the India-Bhutan education partnership, 22 Indian STEM teachers were recruited to teach at Bhutanese schools this year, taking the total number of Indian STEM teachers under this arrangement to over 50.

India also extended financial and technical support for Bhutan's National Service Programme- Gyalsung, which places youth and skill development at the heart of national efforts. The first India-Bhutan Youth Friendship Camp was organised at Officers' Training Academy, Gaya in September, bringing together NCC cadets and Desuung (Bhutan's volunteer corps) for joint activities on disaster management, nature preservation, and cultural engagements. A Bhutanese Scouts delegation visited India for India's Republic Day celebrations in January and an NCC delegation participated in Bhutan's National Day Celebrations on 17 December.

Cultural Cooperation

India's Nehru-Wangchuck Cultural Centre in Thimphu continued to impart knowledge on Yoga, Indian traditional music, and other cultural activities between the people of two countries. An ICCR Kathak cultural troupe visited Bhutan in January and performed at several locations in the country. A Traditional Music Group from Bhutan visited India for the BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival held in New Delhi in July-August.

India and Bhutan share close spiritual and cultural linkages, an enduring pillar of the unique friendship between the two countries. A number of Bhutanese pilgrims travel to Buddhist sites in India. The construction of the Royal Bhutan Temple was completed this year and the Je Khenpo presided over its consecration ceremony in September, with the participation of the Prime Minister and Home Minister of Bhutan.

During Prime Minister's visit to Bhutan in November, the Government of India announced the grant of land to Bhutan for building a Buddhist temple at Varanasi.

The Holy Piprahwa Relics of Lord Buddha from India were in Bhutan for a public exposition on 8-25 November. The Holy Relics were enshrined at the prestigious Grand Kuenray Hall of Tashichhodzong in Thimphu, and the exposition coincided with the Global Peace Prayer Festival organised by Bhutan, as well as the 70th Birth Anniversary of the Fourth King of Bhutan Jigme Singye Wangchuck. The Holy Relics received enormous response including visits by the King and Queen of Bhutan, the Chief Abbot, members of the Royal Family, Prime Minister and Ministers of Bhutan and about 1,08,000 visitors. Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment accompanied the Holy Relics on arrival on 8 November and the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs

accompanied the Relics on their return to India on 25 November.

Gelephu Mindfulness City

Bhutan is developing the Gelephu Mindfulness City (GMC) as a Special Administrative Region, as per the vision of the King of Bhutan. The Government of India has conveyed its support for the project and is engaging with Bhutan on the various facets of the initiative. During Prime Minister's visit to Bhutan in November, the Government of India announced the decision to establish an Immigration Check Post at Hatisar, Assam, to facilitate easy movement of investors and visitors to Gelephu.

Maldives

India and the Maldives are close maritime neighbours and share deep ethnic, linguistic, and cultural bonds. The Maldives hold a key place in India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and the vision of MAHASAGAR, which aims to bring stability and prosperity in the region. India is Maldives' most trusted friend and has always stood by the Maldives as the 'First Responder'. The bilateral relations scaled newer heights with the State visit of Prime Minister as the 'Guest of Honour' for the celebrations marking the 60th Anniversary of the Maldives' independence on 26 July. This year also marks 60 years since the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and the Maldives.

High-Level Visits

Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Maldives on 25-26 July, coinciding with the 60th Independence Day celebrations of the country and met President of the Maldives Mohamed Muizzu. The two leaders held discussions on bilateral, regional, and international issues of mutual interest. Prime Minister and President Muizzu also met in Tianjin, on the sidelines of the SCO Summit held in September.

Foreign Minister of the Maldives Abdulla Khaleel visited India thrice this year- in January, March and May, during which he held bilateral meetings with EAM. The two Ministers also met in Oman on the sidelines of the Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) in February and in September in New York on the sidelines of UNGA.



Foreign Minister of the Maldives Abdulla Khaleel met EAM on the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi, March 2025.

Minister of Defence of the Maldives Mohamed Ghassan Maumoon led a delegation to India on 7-11 January, while the Speaker of People's Majlis Abdul Raheem Abdulla led a 16-member parliamentary delegation to India on 10-14 February. Minister of Health Abdulla Nazim Ibrahim met his Indian counterpart in New Delhi in February, and Minister of State for Tourism and Environment Mohamed Muaviyath visited India in March. Minister of Youth Empowerment, Information and Arts Ibrahim Waheed participated in the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) held in Mumbai in May.

Trade and Economic Cooperation

Over the years, bilateral trade with Maldives has been on rise. From January-December 2025, bilateral trade between India and Maldives stood at USD 535.18 million. Earlier in the year, India extended a restriction-free arrangement for export of essential commodities to the Maldives, by another year. The Terms of Reference (ToR) for negotiations of Free Trade Agreement (FTA) was signed during Prime Minister's State Visit to the Maldives. The State Visit also witnessed the signing of a Network-to-Network Agreement on UPI roll out in the Maldives.

Development Cooperation

India-Maldives Development cooperation has expanded rapidly over the last few years with projects worth over USD 2 billion under implementation or already implemented across the Maldives. During the Prime Minister's visit, the two sides signed/exchanged eight MoUs covering diverse sectors focused on digital transformation through sharing India's population-scale digital solutions, cooperation in fisheries and aquaculture, meteorological services collaboration, and pharmacopoeia standards. Both countries also jointly inaugurated the Maldivian Ministry of Defence Building in Male. Financial arrangements were strengthened through a new INR denominated umbrella LOC agreement of INR 4850 Crore.



Prime Minister handed over 3300 social housing units in Hulhumale under India's Buyers' Credit facilities to President of the Maldives Mohamed Muizzu during his State Visit to the Maldives, July 2025.

Defence Cooperation

The eighth edition of the Joint Staff Talks (JST) was conducted in New Delhi on 26-28 May and the sixth edition of the Defence Cooperation Dialogue (DCD), led by Defence Secretary from the Indian side, was held in the Maldives on 6 October. India continued to extend capacity building and training courses to MNDF personnel during the year.

From January to December, more than 400 Maldivians visited India under institutional MoUs and ITEC Programmes, offering in-person training across areas such as – Civil Services, Customs, Local Governance, Judiciary and Audit.

In November, National Security Advisor of the Maldives Ibrahim Latheef visited India for the seventh edition of the NSA-level Colombo Security Conclave in New Delhi.

The eighth edition of 'Exercise Ekatha' was held in Maldives on 20 November-17 December and the 14th edition of the Joint Exercise 'Ekuverin' was held in Thiruvananthapuram on 2-15 December.

People-to-People Exchanges

India remained the leading source of tourists to Maldives with around 10,000 visitors in the first nine months.



Prime Minister and President of Maldives Mohamed Muizzu jointly inaugurated the state-of-the-art Ministry of Defence (MoD) building in Male, July 2025. The 11-story building was constructed with India's financial assistance and will contribute towards enhancing the capabilities of the defence and law enforcement authorities of Maldives.

Myanmar

Myanmar is an important neighbouring country that shares a 1643 km land border and 1060 km maritime boundary with India. At the convergence of India's key foreign policy priorities, Neighbourhood First, Act East and MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions) including the Indo–Pacific, Myanmar remains critical to India's connect with Southeast Asian countries including ASEAN. India and Myanmar share strong civilisational, historical and people-to-people ties, with Buddhism constituting an important cultural link and a part of India's shared heritage with Myanmar.

Political and security situation in Myanmar remains volatile since February 2021. The current security and humanitarian situation in Myanmar remain a cause of concern, as it has direct implications for India. The State of Emergency ended, after 4.5 years, on 31 July and the State Security and Peace Commission was formed to supervise the general elections in Myanmar from December 2025 - January 2026. India's interest lies in seeing peace and stability in Myanmar, and therefore, India continues to call for immediate cessation of violence, resolution of issues through dialogue, and return to the path of democracy through free, fair and inclusive elections.

Marking a significant milestone in bilateral cooperation on boundary matters and effective border management, India and Myanmar signed 36 boundary strip maps at Plenipotentiary level on 29 July. An 'Agreement for Authorising the Dependents of Members of a Diplomatic Mission or Consular Post to Engage in Gainful Employment between India and Myanmar' was signed on 26 August.

High-Level Visits

Prime Minister and Senior General Min Aung Hlaing met twice in 2025 and reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral relationship. In their first interaction of the year, the leaders met on the sidelines of the BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok on 4 April. During their second meeting on 31 August, the leaders met on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin.

Myanmar's Minister for Investment and Foreign Economic Relations Kan Zaw participated at the Global Business Summit organised by Economic Times in February in New Delhi. Deputy Minister of Information U Ye Tint participated in the WAVES Summit in April. Deputy Minister of Electric Power U Aye Kyaw visited India for the 6th Joint Steering Committee Meeting and 7th JWG on Cooperation in Power Sector held in New Delhi on 10-11 July. Deputy Minister of Education Zaw Myint participated in the International Conclave organised by Vellore Institute of Technology (VIT), Chennai on 18-19 September.



Prime Minister met Senior General Min Aung Hlaing on the sidelines of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, August 2025.

Deputy Minister of Electric Power U Aye Kyaw attended the eighth session of the Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) on 27-30 October in New Delhi. Deputy Minister of Transport & Communications U Aung Kyaw Tun attended the India Maritime Week on 27-31 October in Mumbai. Deputy Minister of Commerce U Minn Minn attended the Bharat International Rice Conference 2025 on 30-31 October in New Delhi and the CII Partnership Summit on 14-15 November in Visakhapatnam.

Trade and Economic Cooperation

India is the fourth largest trading partner of Myanmar. Bilateral trade with Myanmar in the Financial Year 2025-26 reached USD 1.489 billion in the first three quarters of (April-December). The total exports to Myanmar between April-December 2025 grossed USD 573.35 million, a growth of 28% year-on-year and the imports from Myanmar grossed USD 916.46 million. In 2025, pharmaceuticals and beans & pulses remained major items of India's export and import from Myanmar, respectively. Presently India is the 11th largest investor with an approved investment of USD 782.821 million by 39 Indian enterprises. The first Joint working Group (JWG) meeting on the recognition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia was held on 9 December at Nay Pyi Taw co-chaired by Deputy Director General (DDG) of Department of Food and Drugs Administration (FDA), Ministry of Health and Secretary-cum-Scientific Director, Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.

Development Cooperation

India has a significant development cooperation portfolio worth approximately USD 2 billion in Myanmar, with most of the projects being undertaken under grant-in-aid. Despite the challenges posed by the ongoing security situation, this year witnessed progress on ongoing socio-economic development projects and major connectivity projects including the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project (KMTTP) and the India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT) Trilateral Highway. The exchange of technical documentation of work done on the 52 km segment (first phase) of the IMT Trilateral Highway was conducted on 1 October.

India has also been implementing human-centric development projects throughout Myanmar under various frameworks, namely, the Border Area Development Programme (BADP), Rakhine State Development Programme (RSDP), HICDP and Quick Impact Projects (QIP) for construction of civilian infrastructure including bridges, roads, schools and small health centres, among others.

The MoU on Cooperation in the field of Implementation of Pilot Project for Digital Identity and Programme for Cooperation in Science and Technology were signed on 29 July. Under this MoU, a team from National Institute of Smart Governance (NISG) visited Myanmar in November and met concerned officials.

As a testament to Government of India's enduring commitment to long term preservation of Myanmar's invaluable religious heritage, the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) has been conserving and restoring earthquake-affected pagodas in Bagan. The inauguration of Phase-II of the restoration conservation works for earthquake-affected Pagodas in Bagan took place on 3 October.



India and Myanmar signed an MoU on the 'Implementation of Pilot project for Digital Identity in Myanmar' in Nay Pyi Taw, July 2025.

Humanitarian Assistance

In solidarity with the people of Myanmar and reaffirming India's role as the region's 'First Responder' to natural disasters, the Government of India swiftly launched Operation Brahma in the immediate aftermath of the 28 March earthquake. India's comprehensive humanitarian rescue and relief mission delivered nearly 1,000 MT of HADR assistance to Myanmar through nine aircraft and five naval ships. India also deployed NDRF Search and Rescue teams, an Indian Army Engineer unit for damage assessment

and established mobile medical clinics and a fully functional Field Hospital, underscoring India's deep commitment to humanitarian needs of the people of Myanmar.

India inaugurated a Jaipur Foot Limb Fitment Camp in Yangon from 2 October-13 November. Over 633 individuals from across Myanmar, including civilians & service personnel were provided with artificial limbs completely free of cost. India is also involved in Myanmar's post-earthquake reconstruction efforts.



India's comprehensive humanitarian rescue and relief mission delivered nearly 1,000 MT of HADR assistance to Myanmar under Operation Brahma, March 2025.

Cultural Cooperation

India and Myanmar share a strong cultural bond rooted in shared Buddhist heritage. Regular classes of Yoga, Bharatanatyam, Indian classical vocal singing and Hindi are conducted for Myanmar nationals at the Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre.

During the year, MEA organised various 'Lecture Series' on Indian culture across Myanmar focusing on cities with high concentration of Indian diaspora, under the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) Scheme.

A six-member cultural troupe from Myanmar participated in the first BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival held on 4 August. An ICCR sponsored dance troupe Purulia Chhau performed on 12 August in Yangon, as part of celebrations marking the 79th Independence Day of India. Vice-Chairman of the State Samgha Maha Nayaka Committee Bhaddanta Kovida participated in the ninth International Dharma Dhamma Conference held on 18-20 September.

Events including the celebration of Rashtriya Ekta Diwas (National Unity Day), 150 years of completion of 'Vande Mataram' and International Gita Mahotsav celebrated by Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre witnessed enthusiastic participation from members of the Indian community and friends of India, reflecting the strong people-to-people ties and cultural bonds between India and Myanmar.

Education Cooperation and Capacity Building

Capacity building initiatives continued throughout the year, with a focus on supporting human resource development in Myanmar under various schemes including ITEC, ICCR scholarships, other specialised training programs and also under BIMSTEC and ASEAN programmes. 53 students from Myanmar utilised the ICCR scholarship slots in the current academic year and several students availed scholarships at Indian universities under various PhD fellowships offered to the ASEAN students. Additionally, the Indian government trained nearly 338 Myanmar officials under various capacity building initiatives, both online and in-person, across diverse areas including Competition Law, English, Information Technology, Banking, Healthcare, Cancer Care, Disaster Management and Audit and Accounts, to name a few. Youth delegations representing sectors including- politics, business, government participated in the ASEAN-India Young Leaders' Summit held in August, the BIMSTEC Young Leaders' Summit held in September and the BIMSTEC Young Diplomats programme held at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Services (SSIFS) in November. 80 Myanmar officers attended the programme conducted at the National Judicial Academy in Bhopal in November-December.

Nepal

Nepal occupies a special place in India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy. The open borders and free movement of citizens between both sides is a reflection of these unique, multifaceted and strong ties. As two countries that share historical, civilisational and cultural linkages, India and Nepal are committed to rapid expansion and strengthening of various connectivity initiatives- energy, trade, railways, financial and digital.

The year has witnessed a renewed momentum as far as bilateral mechanisms between both sides were concerned. In addition to regular meetings of bilateral mechanisms dealing with power, trade, defence and development cooperation, both sides also restarted crucial meetings in the border and boundary management sectors. Despite recent political developments in Nepal, India's bilateral engagement across various sectors is continuing apace – with ministerial as well as technical visits and meetings of bilateral mechanisms held as per schedule. Furthermore, the development partnership continues to witness substantial progress with new proposals being processed and completed development projects being inaugurated as scheduled.

Important Developments in Nepal

Nepal witnessed widespread youth protests on 8-9 September. The response of the law-enforcement authorities and the ensuing violence led to a death toll of 74 people. These developments led to the resignation of then Prime Minister K.P. Oli, following which an Interim Government led by former Chief Justice Sushila Karki was sworn-in. The Government of Nepal and Gen Z representatives concluded a 10-point understanding on 10 December and the Election Commission of Nepal (ECN) approved the schedule for the election of members of the House of Representatives, to be held on 5 March 2026.

The Government of India welcomed the formation of the Interim Government and reiterated its commitment to work closely with Nepal. Prime Minister had a telephonic conversation with Prime Minister of the Interim Government of Nepal Sushila Karki on 18 September, wherein he extended heartfelt condolences for the tragic loss of lives during the protests in Nepal and conveyed India's full support to Nepal in its efforts towards restoring peace and stability, and for the progress of the people of Nepal.

High-Level Visits

Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister of Nepal K. P. Sharma Oli interacted thrice in 2025. Prime Minister first met the then Prime Minister Oli on the sidelines of the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok on 4 April. On 23 April, the then Prime Minister Oli had a telephonic conversation with the Prime Minister, during which he strongly condemned the heinous terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir and offered his sincere condolences. On the third occasion, Prime Minister met the then Prime Minister Oli on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin, China on 31 August.



Prime Minister met the then Prime Minister of Nepal K. P. Sharma Oli on the sidelines of the 6th BIMSTEC Summit in Bangkok, April 2025

Ministerial Visits

The year witnessed several Ministerial-level interactions. The then Foreign Minister of Nepal Arzu Rana Deuba met EAM on the sidelines of Indian Ocean Conference (IOC) held in Oman on 16 February. She also visited India to attend the Raisina Dialogue. During the visit, she met EAM on 18 March and discussed various facets of India-Nepal bilateral cooperation.

The then Minister for Water Supply of Nepal Pradeep Yadav visited India in March. He oversaw the signing of an MoU for strengthening bilateral cooperation in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector, including Waste Management on 3 March. The then Minister for Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation of the Interim Government of Nepal Kulman Ghising visited India on 27-29 October to participate in the General Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA). During his visit, he also met Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs of India.

Chief Justice of Nepal Justice Prakash Man Singh Raut visited India on 6-10 April. During the visit, the Supreme Court of India and the Supreme Court of Nepal signed an MoU on 7 April to develop, promote and strengthen judicial cooperation. The then Chief Justice of India (CJI) paid an official visit to Nepal on 4-7 September. During his visit, CJI addressed the members of the Nepali judicial and legal community at the 'India-Nepal Judicial Dialogue'. His visit also witnessed the first meeting of the Joint Working Group set up between the two apex courts.

Minister of Industry, Commerce and Supplies of Nepal Anil Kumar Sinha, visited India on 14-15 November to attend the 30th edition of Partnership Summit organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) in Visakhapatnam. During his visit, he held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Commerce and Industry in New Delhi on 13 November. Both countries exchanged letters amending the Protocol to the Treaty of Transit between India and Nepal. Minister for Health and Population of Nepal Sudha Gautam, participated in the second edition of the WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine held in New Delhi on 17-19 December. On the sidelines of the Summit, Minister Gautam held bilateral meetings with Minister of Ayush and Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

Several ministers from India also paid official visits to Nepal this year, including Minister of Agriculture, Farmers Welfare and Rural Development, to attend the third BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture on 8-10 April. During the visit, an MoU on 'Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture between India and Nepal' was signed with a focus on enhancing crop productivity, improving post-harvest management, strengthening agri-marketing systems, and promoting climate-resilient and sustainable agricultural practices. Separately, Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs of India visited Nepal on 22-23 April. During the visit, Minister held productive discussions with the then Minister for Energy, Water Resources and Irrigation of Nepal Dipak Khadka and reviewed progress of various hydropower projects in Nepal being implemented by Indian companies.

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change of India visited Nepal to participate in the 'Sagarmatha Sambaad' Dialogue 2025, held in Kathmandu on 15-17 May. During the visit, Minister had meetings with the then Prime Minister Oli, the then Foreign Minister Deuba and the then Forests and Environment Minister Ain Bahadur Shahi Thakuri.

Other Important Visits and Interactions

Foreign Secretary paid an official visit to Nepal on 17-18 August. During his visit, he called on the President of Nepal Ramchandra Paudel, the then Prime Minister Oli and met the then Foreign Minister Deuba. The officials held wide-ranging discussions, reviewed the progress made in various bilateral initiatives, and discussed opportunities for further collaboration.



Foreign Secretary called on the President of Nepal Ramchandra Paudel during his official visit to Nepal, August 2025.

An Indian Parliamentary delegation participated in the 151st Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly held in Geneva on 19-23 October. Separately, a bilateral meeting between the Indian and Nepali delegations was held on the sidelines of the 151st IPU in Geneva.

Bilateral Mechanism Meetings

The Secretary-level meeting of the India-Nepal Inter-Governmental Committee (IGC) on Trade, Transit, and Cooperation to Combat Unauthorised Trade was held in Kathmandu on 10-11 January. Both sides reviewed the whole gamut of bilateral trade and economic relationship.

Additional Secretary (North) visited Nepal on 26- 29 January to co-chair the fifth meeting of Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC) on post-earthquake reconstruction projects.

In the area of Power Sector Cooperation, the Joint Secretary-level Joint Working Group met in New Delhi on 22 January. This was followed by a Secretary-level Joint Steering Committee meeting held on 11 February.

The ninth Meeting of the Project Steering Committee (PSC) to assess ongoing rail related projects in Nepal was held on 27 February and seventh Meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) on similar issues was held on 28 February, in New Delhi.

The 13th meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group (JWG) on Border Management (BM) was held in Pokhara, Nepal on 27-28 March. The two sides reviewed issues related to India-Nepal border management and agreed to further strengthen bilateral cooperation and coordination in border management and security.

The 21st Director General Level Talks on Customs Cooperation between India and Nepal were held in Kathmandu on 10-11 April. The talks were aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation to facilitate cross border trade as well as to prevent and counter smuggling.

The second bilateral Talks between Narcotics Control Authorities of India and Nepal on 'Drug Demand Reduction and Prevention of Illicit Trafficking in Narcotics Drugs, Psychotropic Substance and Precursor Chemicals and Related Matters' was held in Kathmandu on 29 April. The talks were aimed at strengthening bilateral cooperation to counter cross-border illicit trafficking of narcotics substances. Following the signing of the MoU in March, to enhance cooperation in the Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) sector, a three-member delegation from Nepal visited India on 19-21 June to participate in the first Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on WASH.

The 16th Meeting of the India-Nepal Bilateral Consultative Group on Security Issues (INBCGSI) was held in Pune on 23-24 June. Both sides agreed to further strengthen defence and security cooperation in areas of equipment supply, training, capacity building and military exchanges.

The Home Secretary-Level Talks (HSLT) between India and Nepal were held in New Delhi on 22 July. During the talks, both sides reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral security cooperation as well as border management and agreed to strengthen it further. They also welcomed the finalisation of the text of the Agreement on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters and agreed to work towards early conclusion of the revised Extradition Treaty.

The seventh meeting of the India-Nepal Boundary

Working Group, co-chaired by Surveyor General of India, Survey of India and the Director General, Survey Department of Nepal met in New Delhi on 28-29 July. Both sides reviewed India-Nepal boundary matters; adopted updated modalities for inspection, repair and maintenance of boundary pillars, and also finalised a work plan for the coming years.

The ninth Annual Coordination meeting between DG SSB and IG APF took place in New Delhi on 12-14 November.

The fifth meeting of the Joint Project Monitoring Committee (JPMC) on National Police Academy (NPA) project was held online on 1 December.

The 11th India-Nepal Lines of Credit Review Meeting was held in New Delhi on 4 December. Both sides reviewed the status of various ongoing projects under LoCs and discussed ways to further streamline processes towards faster project delivery.

The fifth Meeting of the India–Nepal Joint Working Group on Petroleum and Gas was held in New Delhi on 8 December. The ninth India-Nepal Joint Agriculture Working Group (JAWG) meeting was held in Kathmandu on 28-29 December.

Other delegation visits

A three-member delegation from Ministry of Jal Shakti, Government of India visited Nepal's Terai region on 11-14 August to assess ground water depletion.

A three-member delegation from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, led by Additional Secretary (DA&FW) visited Nepal on 27-29 December for the ninth India-Nepal Joint Agriculture Working Group Meeting.

India also hosted several incoming delegation-level visits this year. The MEA's XP Division organised two familiarisation visits of journalists this year. The first familiarisation visit comprising 12 economic journalists from Nepal was organised on 5-13 February, while the second familiarisation visit with participation of 10 journalists from Nepal was organised on 2-9 July. A 12-member delegation consisting of local government representatives travelled to the National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad for 'International Training Programme on Urban Governance for Elected Representatives of Nepal' on 26 February-7 March. Separately, a delegation headed by Secretary, Ministry of Water Supply of Nepal Pramila Devi Shakya Bajracharya, visited the National Water Academy (NWA), Central Water Commission (CWC), Pune on 4-5 March.

A delegation led by the Chief Minister of Sudurpaschim Province of Nepal Kamal Bahadur Shah visited India on 29 April-5 May. As part of their programme, the delegation visited states of Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh. During the visit, the delegation held a meeting with MoS (KVS).

A delegation comprising 27 members, mostly mayors/chairmen of rural municipalities from three districts of Sudurpaschim namely Dadeldhura, Baitadi and Darchula undertook a study tour at the National Institute of Rural Development & Panchayat Raj (NIRDPR), Hyderabad on 14-23 July. Separately, 40 delegates from Government of Nepal received training on Natural Farming at Gurukul Kurukshetra, Haryana on 5-9 August. A delegation of two officers and sixteen NCC cadets of Nepal paid a visit to India on 12-23 November.

Power and Energy Cooperation

According to the Government of India's Central Electricity Authority, export of 1131 MW of power from Hydropower Projects in Nepal to India was authorised during the period. This is in line with the Agreement for Long Term Power Trade that was signed between India and Nepal in January 2024.

In April, both sides signed an MoU between Nepal Electricity Authority and Power Grid Corporation to jointly develop two new 400 kV cross-border transmission lines viz., the Dododhara-Bareilly and Inaruwa-Purnea lines (Annexure I).



Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. and Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) signed a MoU to implement high capacity 400 kV Inaruwa (Nepal)–New Purnea (India) and 400kV Dododhara (Nepal)–Bareilly (India) double-circuit transmission system, April 2025.

During the then Minister for Energy, Water Resources, and Irrigation Kulman Ghising's visit to India on 29 October, Joint Venture and Shareholders' Agreements were signed between POWERGRID and Nepal Electricity Authority, for the development of high-capacity cross-border power transmission structure with respect to aforementioned 400 kV lines.

Trade and Economic Cooperation

Indian firms are among the largest investors in Nepal, accounting for 35 percent of the total Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) stock in Nepal worth nearly USD 777 million. Nepal is India's 14th largest export destination, up from 28th position in 2014. India comprises about 62.03 percent of total trade of Nepal, equating to USD 8.53 billion in Indian FY 24-25. This includes USD 7.33 billion of exports from India to Nepal and USD 1.2 billion of exports from Nepal to India.

India is Nepal's largest export destination, receiving an overwhelming 81.1 per cent of its total exports as per annual data available from Nepal Rastra Bank for the period between August 2024-July 2025. Nepal's exports mainly constitute edible oil, coffee, tea and jute. Nepal's main imports from India are petroleum products, iron and steel, cereals, vehicles and parts and machinery parts. At present, there are about 150 Indian ventures operating in Nepal engaged in manufacturing, services, banking, insurance, dry port, education and telecom, power sector and tourism industries.

On 13 November, both countries exchanged letters amending the 'Protocol to the Treaty of Transit between India and Nepal.' This signing aims to facilitate the movement of rail-based freight between Jogbani (India) and Biratnagar (Nepal) including bulk cargo under an expanded definition.

The India-Nepal Startup Partnership Network (IN-SPAN) program commenced its first edition on 1 December, at IIT Madras Pravartak. 24 startups from Nepal drawn from diverse sectors including AI, cybersecurity, agri-tech, edtech, SaaS, and fintech, participated in the program.

Development Cooperation

The High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP) Programme, which began in 2003, is a significant pillar of the India-Nepal development partnership. From 1 January-30 September, 15 MoUs worth of USD 7 million were signed for HICDPs in Nepal. During the same period, foundation stones for 10 HICDP projects worth USD 2.84 million were laid, and eight projects worth of NRs 1.72 million were inaugurated. Additionally, between 1 October-31 December, 11 HICDP tripartite MoUs were signed and foundation stones for five HICDPs were laid. India also inaugurated five HICDP projects during the same period.

In addition to the HICDPs, the Government of India also gifted ambulances and school buses to institutions working in Nepal's health and education sectors, particularly on the occasion of India's Independence Day and Republic Day. Between January-October, India donated 40 ambulances to Nepal, as well as 81 school buses to various educational institutions located in 48 districts of the country.

Separately, India handed-over medicines and vaccines for Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia worth USD

1.82 million to the Government of Nepal in April. On 20 August, 2 Bailey Bridges, situated across the Hewa River in Panchthar district and the Puwa River in Ilam district of Nepal were inaugurated. The bridge is among 10 prefabricated steel bridges provided by India under grant assistance to help rebuild critical road infrastructure damaged during the September 2024 landslides and floods.

The Embassy of India handed over a 70-meter modular bridge and specialized launching tools were handed to the Minister of Physical Infrastructure and Transport of Nepal in a ceremony held at Hetauda, on 20 November.

Education Cooperation, Capacity Building and People-to-People Ties

Scholarships are offered to Nepalese students every year to pursue various academic courses both in India as well as in Nepal. This year, 1102 scholarships have been awarded to students from Nepal, while 391 slots under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme were utilised in this period.

Furthermore, 1324 Nepalese students applied to appear in the Institute of National Importance Combined Entrance Test (INI-CET) for admission in PG Medical courses (MD/MS/DM) to study in AIIMS, JIMPER, NIMHANS& PGIMER in India. In addition, five Nepali students were allotted UG seats to pursue BE/B. Pharmacy/Architect/Diploma courses and 30 students were allotted MBBS/BDS courses under the Government of India's Self-Financing Scheme (SFS) Scheme this year.

Cultural Cooperation

Several events were organized by the Embassy of India Kathmandu in the year 2025, including Buddha Jayanti, International Yoga Day, Independence Day and Republic Day. The Embassy also conducted cultural initiatives on 11 May on the occasion of Buddha Jayanti, including a symposium on 'India and Nepal Buddhist Heritage' and a painting exhibition, both held in Lumbini.

Defence Cooperation

India and Nepal have wide-ranging cooperation in the defence sector. India has played a vital role in the modernisation and capability enhancement of the Nepali Army by provisioning various types of defence stores and imparting regular training to personnel of the Nepali Army. This year, India handed-over Light Strike Vehicles, Target Practice Drones, Military Animals and Critical Care Medical Equipment to the Nepali Army.



India handed over the first consignment of vaccines for Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia to Nepal, April 2025.

Assistant Chief of the Army Staff (ACOAS), Nepali Army Lt Gen Pradeep Jung KC visited India on 13-17 October, to take part in the Army Chiefs' Conclave of United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UN TCCs) held at New Delhi. The 19th edition of annual India-Nepal Battalion level joint Exercise 'SURYA KIRAN' was conducted at Pithoragarh, India on 25 November-8 December. A total of 334 personnel each from the Indian Army and the Nepali Army participated in the exercise.

Pakistan

The year 2025 was marked by India's resolute and multifaceted response to Pakistan's unabated sponsorship of cross-border terrorism, a reality brutally underscored by the barbaric attack in Pahalgam on 22 April that killed 26 innocent civilians, including one Nepali citizen. This act triggered a decisive shift in India's policy, placing the onus for any possible future engagement squarely on Pakistan's willingness to cease its support to terrorism as an instrument of statecraft.

In response to the Pahalgam terrorist attack, India took a series of diplomatic measures that included holding in abeyance of the Indus Waters Treaty of 1960, closing the Integrated Check Post (ICP) Attari, stopping visa services to Pakistani nationals and cancellation of active SVES Pakistani visas, declaring Defence/Military, Naval and Air Advisors in the Pakistani High Commission as Persona Non Grata and bringing down the strength of the High Commission to 30. Further, India banned all direct and indirect imports of goods from Pakistan, closed its airspace for Pakistani aircraft, suspended all postal services to and from Pakistan and barred ships bearing Pakistani flag from docking at Indian ports.

Subsequently, as there was no demonstrable step from Pakistan against the terrorist infrastructure on its territory, India launched 'Operation Sindoor' on 7 May targeting terrorist infrastructure in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. On 10 May, the Director General of Military Operations (DGMO) of Pakistan approached his Indian counterpart to request for cessation of firing and military activities, which was agreed to later that day.

Operation Sindoor has set a new benchmark in India's fight against cross-border terrorism and has established a new normal. First, if there is a terrorist attack on India, a fitting reply will be given. India will take strict action at every place from where the roots of terrorism emerge. Second, India will not tolerate any nuclear blackmail. India will strike precisely and decisively at the terrorist hideouts developing under the cover of nuclear blackmail. Third, India will not differentiate between the Government which is sponsoring terrorism, and the masterminds of terrorism. India will continue to take decisive steps to protect India and its citizens from any threat.

Following Operation Sindoor, seven all-party delegations travelled to 33 countries to convey India's strong national consensus and resolute approach to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Each delegation comprised Members of Parliament and eminent personalities from different political parties across India, as well as veteran diplomats. The delegations briefed their interlocutors on the Pahalgam terror attack and Operation Sindoor, and also the long history of Pakistan-sponsored terror attacks in India. The delegations were able not only to raise awareness on Pakistan's complicity in terrorism on a global scale but also address Pakistani propaganda on Jammu and Kashmir and Operation Sindoor. The interlocutors unequivocally condemned the use of terrorism against India, recognising India's right to defend itself against terrorism.

It was due to greater appreciation of India's position and the persistent diplomatic efforts that the terrorist group 'The Resistance Front' (TRF), responsible for the Pahalgam terror attack, was mentioned in the report of the Monitoring Team of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) 1267 Sanctions Committee, published on 29 July. Moreover, on 18 July, TRF was designated by the US as a Foreign Terrorist Organisation (FTO) and as a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). In July, India organised an exhibition titled the 'Human Cost of Terrorism' at the UN Headquarters to showcase the human impact of terrorism in India and beyond, and highlighted India's contribution towards combating terrorism.

Indus Water Treaty

Following the Pahalgam terrorist attack, India has, in exercise of its rights as a sovereign nation under the international law, placed the Indus Waters Treaty in abeyance, until Pakistan credibly and irrevocably abjures its support for cross-border terrorism. Until such time that the Treaty is in abeyance, India is no longer bound to perform any of its obligations under the Treaty.

Religious Pilgrimages

Visits of pilgrims between India and Pakistan are facilitated under the 1974 Bilateral Protocol on Visits to Religious Shrines. This year, India facilitated the visits of 5135 Indian pilgrims across various religious shrines to Pakistan on the occasions of birth anniversary of Sant Shadaram Saheb Ji (Shadani Darbar, January), Mahashivratri (Katas Raj Dham, February-March), Baisakhi (April) and Gurupurab (November). During this period, India also facilitated the visit of 289 Pakistani pilgrims to religious shrines in India on the occasions of Urs of Hazrat Khawaja Moinuddin Chisti (January) and Urs of Hazrat Amir Khusro (April). Since 7 May, the services of Sri Kartarpur Sahib corridor remain suspended given the extant security situation.

Humanitarian issues - Prisoners and Fishermen

India attaches high importance to the issue of Indian prisoners held in Pakistan's custody and regularly takes up the matter of their early release and repatriation to India. As on 1 July, Pakistan has acknowledged the custody of 53 civil prisoners and 193 fishermen who are either Indians or are believed-to-be Indians. Similarly, there are 382 civil prisoners and 81 fishermen in Indian custody, who are either Pakistanis or are believed-to-be Pakistanis. As a result of sustained efforts by the Government, 2661 Indian fishermen and 71 Indian civil prisoners have been repatriated from Pakistan since 2014. In 2025, 22 Indian fishermen have been repatriated from Pakistan. India has sought early Consular Access, release and repatriation of the remaining Indian nationals in Pakistan's custody.

Treatment of Minorities in Pakistan

Given the continued persecution of minority communities in Pakistan, India has raised the issue of atrocities against the members of these groups in Pakistan on several occasions. India has also conveyed its concerns regarding the incidents of vandalism/ desecration of places of worship and cultural heritage of minority communities as well as discrimination, killing, abduction, forced conversion and marriages of the members of the minority communities

Sri Lanka

India is Sri Lanka's closest neighbour, sharing a strong civilisational and historical connection. Sri Lanka has a central place in India's 'Neighbourhood First' policy and 'MAHASAGAR' vision. Bilateral relations between the two countries have matured and diversified, encompassing all areas of contemporary relevance, particularly with several high-level engagements, including the visits of President of Sri Lanka Anura Kumara Dissanayake to India in December 2024 and the Prime Minister to Sri Lanka in April 2025.

High-Level Visits

Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Sri Lanka on 4-6 April. This marked the first visit by any Head of State/Government to Sri Lanka since President Dissanayake assumed office in September 2024. During the visit, India and Sri Lanka exchanged a total of seven MoUs covering various fields like defence cooperation, health and mass media, energy and connectivity, to name a few. The visit also witnessed the conclusion of Bilateral Amendatory Agreements on Debt Restructuring. Prime Minister and President Dissanayake jointly inaugurated five projects executed with Indian assistance during the visit. Prime Minister also made several announcements including India's grant assistance for the development of Thirukoneswaram temple in Trincomalee, Sita Eliya temple in Nuwara Eliya, and Sacred City Complex Project in Anuradhapura, the Exposition of Lord Buddha relics in Sri Lanka, and a comprehensive capacity-building programme in India covering 700 Sri Lankans annually. In recognition of his significant

contribution to the advancement of bilateral ties, Prime Minister was conferred the 'Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana' award, Sri Lanka's highest honour bestowed on foreign leaders.

EAM visited Sri Lanka as part of the official delegation during Prime Minister's visit in April and again on 22-23 December as Prime Minister's Special Envoy to announce the comprehensive relief package worth USD 450 million for rehabilitation and reconstruction efforts post-Cyclone Ditwah.

Minister of State for Health & Family Welfare visited Sri Lanka on 11-12 October to attend the World Health Organisation (WHO)'s Regional Coordination Committee meeting.

The year also witnessed several incoming visits aimed at bolstering bilateral relations between the two countries. Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Harini Amarasuriya visited India on 16-18 October. During the visit, she called on Prime Minister and met EAM.



EAM met Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Harini Amarasuriya in New Delhi, October 2025.

Deputy Minister Youth Affairs Eranga Gunasekara visited India to attend the BIMSTEC Young Leaders' Summit on 7-11 February, while Minister of Industries & Entrepreneurship Development Sunil Handunnetti attended the Bharat Tex, held in the same month. Deputy Minister of Digital Economy Eranga Weeraratne participated in the NASSCOM Leadership Summit on 24-25 February. Minister of Ports & Civil Aviation of Sri Lanka Anura Karunathilake visited India to participate in the Kerala Urban Conclave 2025 held on 12-13 September and the India Maritime Week held on 27-28 October. Minister of Trade, Commerce, Food Security and Cooperative Development Wasantha Samarasinghe participated in the World Food India 2025 on 24-26 September and Minister of Energy Kumara Jayakody attended the sixth International Energy Conference & Exhibition (IECE 2025) on 23-24 September as well as the International Solar Alliance Meeting on 27-28 October. The Leader of Opposition Sajith Premadasa also visited India on 3-6 November and met EAM, National Security Advisor (NSA) and the Minister of Health and Family Welfare.

The year also witnessed incoming delegation-level visits, beginning with a multi-party Parliamentary delegation led by the Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Sri Lanka Rizvie Salih visiting India for a week-long Orientation Programme by Parliamentary Research & Training Institute for Democracies (PRIDE) on 25-31 May. A 24-member delegation of Young Political Leaders representing 14 Sri Lankan political parties visited India on 14-25 July, followed-by Sri Lanka-India Parliamentary Friendship Association delegation's visit to India on 26-30 August, led by Minister of Health & Mass Media Nalinda Jayatissa.

Trade and Economic Cooperation

The State Visit of Prime Minister to Sri Lanka on 4-6 April witnessed the signing of several MoUs on Pharmacopeial Cooperation, Implementation of HVDC Interconnection for Import/Export of Power, Cooperation in the Field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation, and Cooperation in the field of Health & Medicine. A trilateral MoU was also signed

between India, Sri Lanka and the UAE for cooperation in development of Trincomalee as an Energy Hub. The visit also witnessed the inauguration of several projects including - inauguration of upgraded railway track of the Maho-Omanthai railway line executed under an Indian Line of Credit by IRCON International Limited, launch of Construction of a Signalling System for Maho-Anuradhapura railway line, ground breaking ceremony of Sampur Solar power project, and supply of Solar Rooftop Systems for 5000 Religious Institutions across Sri Lanka. Separately, India extended credit assistance of USD 17 million for the installation of Solar PV Rooftop Systems at 5,000 religious sites across Sri Lanka.



India, Sri Lanka and the UAE signed a trilateral MoU for cooperation in development of Trincomalee as an Energy Hub during Prime Minister's State Visit to Colombo, April 2025.

India further extended the financial assistance to Sri Lanka for another year to support the ongoing passenger ferry service between Nagapattinam and Kankesanthurai. This extension is in line with India's continued commitment to enhancing regional connectivity and strengthening people-to-people linkages between the two nations.

The inaugural meeting of the Joint Working Group on Cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine was held on 28 August, while the second meeting of the India-Sri Lanka Joint Working Group on Renewable Energy was held virtually on 23 September. The first Joint Working Group meeting on Agriculture was held on 30 October.

A delegation comprising CEOs from the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) visited Colombo on 29 June-2 July. A delegation led by the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Cell of the Ministry of Finance visited Sri Lanka to conduct capacity-building and training programmes for senior officials of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka and other relevant ministries of the Government of Sri Lanka on 22-24 September.

Development Cooperation

Development assistance projects continued in 2025 across several sectors in health, education, infrastructure, to name a few. The MoU for 'Supply of Single Cabs for use in Police Stations in Sri Lanka' with Indian grant assistance to the tune of Sri Lankan Rupees (SLR) 300 million was signed on 15 January. The MoU on 'Establishment of 60 Smart Classrooms in Selected Schools' in the plantation regions with Indian grant assistance of USD 1.6 million was signed on 16 January.

A first-of-its-kind 5000 MT temperature-controlled warehouse for perishable agricultural produce constructed in Dambulla with Indian grant assistance of USD 1 million was inaugurated during the State visit of the Prime Minister to Sri Lanka in April. During the visit, both sides also signed a framework MoU for the 'Implementation of Indian Multi-sectoral Grant Assistance for Eastern province' worth USD 7.66 million.



Prime Minister and President of Sri Lanka Anura Kumara Dissanayake inaugurated the 128km Maho-Omanthai railway line refurbished with Indian assistance during his State Visit to Colombo, April 2025.

A project to establish Smart Classrooms and Modern Computer Labs in 200 Schools in the Galle District with grant assistance of USD 0.77 million was completed in August.

The MoU for 'Construction & Supply of Medical Equipments at District General Hospital Mannar' with Indian grant assistance of USD 1.94 million was signed in September. As part of the Indian Housing Project Phase IV announced by the Prime Minister during his visit to Sri Lanka in 2017, Stage-2 of the project covering 4,700 beneficiaries was launched on 12 October. Further, five model villages under the Indian grant-supported Model Village Housing Project were handed over in 2025. 115 Houses and Infrastructure Facilities in the Sri Shobhita Thero Village, Anuradhapura District with Indian grant assistance of USD 1.45 million were also handed over in July.

Subsequent to announcement made by the Prime Minister during the State Visit of President of Sri Lanka to India in December 2024, starting academic year 2025-26, an enhanced financial assistance programme for 100 students from economically backward background each from the University of Jaffna and Eastern University Batticaloa with financial assistance of USD 24.24 per month per student has been rolled out. The construction of Multi-Ethnic Trilingual School in Polonnaruwa with Indian grant assistance of USD 1.4 million has been completed and the project was inaugurated in October.

India launched 'Operation Sagar Bandhu' on the day of Cyclone Ditwah's landfall in the country. India's Aircraft Carrier INS Vikrant as well as INS Udayagiri delivered relief material and deployed helicopters to execute rescue and relief operations. Separately, the Indian Air Force mobilised Mi-17 helicopters as a part of rescue efforts and an 80-member National Disaster Response Force contingent conducted rescue and relief operations. The Indian Army set up a field hospital with 85 medical personnel near Kandy, giving emergency care to more than 8000 people. Two modular BHISHM emergency care units were also air lifted to Sri Lanka and utilised. Indian Army Engineers erected a Bailey bridge along A35 road in Kilinochchi. Overall, Operation Sagar Bandhu delivered over 1100 tonnes of relief material, including dry rations, tents, tarpaulins, hygiene kits, essential clothing and water purification kits. The relief material also comprised nearly 14.5 tonnes of medicines and medical equipment.

During EAM's visit to Sri Lanka in December, as the Prime Minister's Special Envoy, he announced an assistance worth USD 100 million grant and extension of four LOCs worth USD 350 million for Sri Lanka's recovery and rehabilitation efforts post-Cyclone Ditwah. This comprehensive package covering at least 16 different projects is structured along five pillars - Physical Connectivity Infrastructure, Housing and Water, Health and education, Agriculture, Disaster Response and Prevention Measures.

Capacity Building

As on date, 201 civil servants from Sri Lanka have been trained under the December 2024 MoU signed between National Centre for Good Government of India (NCGG) and Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration (SLIDA). The MoU calls for training 1500 Sri Lankan civil servants over a period of five years.

To cater the requests received from various quarters of Sri Lanka in the field of Capacity Development, 700 additional customised training slots annually for Sri Lankan professionals were announced during the State visit of the Prime Minister in April. Under the initiative, 281 professionals have already undergone training, including two batches of Sri Lankan Members of Parliament, Young Political leaders, Judges from Apex Court and High Court; Election Commission officials, Auditors, media professionals, dairy farmers, Craftsmen from Textile Industry, as well as professionals from the Gem and Jewellery sector, to name a few.

Additionally, 190 Sri Lankan police and special task force personnel were trained in India in 2025, across various domains such as cyber security, digital forensics, crisis response training, digital evidence investigation, human rights, among others.

Defence Cooperation

The MoU on Defence Cooperation was signed during the Prime Minister's visit in April. The eighth India-Sri Lanka Annual Defence Dialogue was co-chaired by the Defence Secretary and Defence Secretary of Sri Lanka Air Vice Marshal Sampath Thuyacontha (Retd.) in Colombo on 5 June. The dialogue focused on strengthening bilateral defence cooperation, enhancing maritime security, and exploring new avenues for collaboration in training and strategic engagement. The 11th Indian Air Force-Sri Lanka Air Force Staff Talk was held in New Delhi on 26-27 June and the eighth High Level Meeting (HLM) between Indian Coast Guard and Sri Lanka Coast Guard was conducted in New Delhi on 11 August.

The year also witnessed visits by Service Chiefs from both sides. Defence Secretary of Sri Lanka Thuyacontha participated in the 15th edition of Aero India at Bengaluru held on 10-14 February as well as the seventh meeting of NSAs of Colombo Security Conclave on 20 November. Commander of the Sri Lankan Army Lieutenant General Lasantha Rodrigo paid an official visit to India on 10-15 June, as well as on 13-17 October to participate at the UN Troops Contributing Countries Chief Conclave. From the Indian side, an Indian delegation, led by Director General of Military Intelligence (DGMI) of the Indian Army visited Sri Lanka on 16-20 September. Chief of the Indian Naval Staff participated in the Galle Dialogue held on 21-25 September.

During the current training year 2025-26, Sri Lanka Armed Forces subscribed to over 1100 vacancies. Several Indian Naval Ships / Coast Guard Ships visited Sri Lanka in 2025, bringing the total number of port calls to 8. The Dornier aircraft based in Sri Lanka was de-inducted on 7 August after three-year lease period. The Sri Lanka–India Naval Exercise 2025 (SLINEX-25), a bilateral naval exercise between Sri Lanka and India, was carried out on 14-18 August.

CHAPTER

2

Indian Ocean Region

Comoros

India-Comoros relations are rooted in historical and cultural ties that have nurtured a strong bilateral partnership. As a key partner in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR), Comoros aligns closely with India's Vision of MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement of Security and Growth Across Regions) and its commitment to the Global South. Key areas of collaboration between India and Comoros encompass development partnership, capacity building, and fostering people-to-people engagement.

Defence and Security

Reinforcing maritime security collaboration with Comoros, Indian Coast Guard Ship (ICGS) Saksham was stationed at the Port of Moroni as part of its overseas deployment on 23-26 March. During the visit, officers of the Indian and Comorian Coast Guards conducted a tabletop exercise-cum-demonstration on Marine Oil Pollution Response in Moroni on 24 March.



Officers of the Indian and Comorian Coast Guards conducted a tabletop exercise-cum-demonstration on Marine Oil Pollution Response in Moroni, as part of the ongoing overseas deployment of ICGS Saksham to Comoros, March 2025

One sailor from the Comoros was deployed for one month aboard the Indian Ocean Ship (IOS) Sagar in April-May. Furthermore, Commander of the Comorian Coast Guard Capt. Azad Ahamada led a delegation of six observers from Comoros and participated in the Africa-India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) Exercise held in Dar-es-Salam (Tanzania) from 13 to 18 April.

Chief of Operations at the Anjouan Naval Base and Head of Radar Sites Alhadji Attoumane took part as an observer in the 10th NATPOLREX (National Level Pollution Response Exercise) held in Chennai on 4-6 October.

Capacity Building

An Officer at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Comoros attended the inaugural Special Course for the Diplomats of Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) countries conducted by the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), New Delhi from 28 April to 3 May.

Health Inspector of the Ministry of Health of Comoros Hamidou Baraka and Head of Registration Department at the National Agency for Medicines and Medical Evacuations (ANAMEV) Youssouf Mohamed Mbae took part in the Second edition of the Policymakers' Visit on Indian Pharmacopoeia held in New Delhi and Ahmedabad on 16-19 June.

Economic and Trade

In 2024-25, bilateral trade between India and Comoros grew steadily to USD 50.77 million, up from USD 46.6 million the previous year. Indian exports totalled USD 36.93 million while imports from Comoros stood at USD 13.84 million. Main export items from India to Comoros include rice, meat, cotton, sugar, and textiles, while main import items from Comoros include cloves, iron and steel, copper, and aluminium.

Culture

A 20-member cultural troupe from Comoros participated in the 38th Surajkund International Crafts Mela held in Surajkund (Haryana) on 7-23 February.

Furthermore, the Indian Embassy successfully organised the 11th International Day of Yoga in Moroni (Comoros) on 17 June.

Madagascar

In line with the Prime Minister's Vision of MAHASAGAR, India and Madagascar strengthened their bilateral ties through high-level engagements, defence cooperation, capacity-building programs and cultural exchanges.

Bilateral Interactions

MoS (Defence) led a high-level Indian delegation on an official visit to Antananarivo on 25-27 June and joined celebrations of Madagascar's 65th Independence Day and the creation of the Malagasy Armed Forces. He held a bilateral meeting with Minister of Armed Forces of Madagascar Lt. Gen. Sahivelo Lala Monja Delphin. He also called on Prime Minister of Madagascar Christian Ntsay.

President of the National Assembly of Madagascar Justin Tokely led a parliamentary delegation on an official visit to New Delhi on 10-14 March. The delegation held bilateral meetings with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and interacted with the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) Secretariat, and Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).



India Coast Guard conducted the 10th NATPOLREX, with participation from 100+ national delegates and 40 observers from 32 countries, including Comoros, in Chennai, October 2025

MoS (Road Transport and Highways) held a bilateral meeting with Minister of Transport and Meteorology of Madagascar Valery Ramonjavelo on the sidelines of the fourth Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Marrakech (Morocco) on 20 February.

Minister of Labour, Employment and Civil Service of Madagascar Hanitra Razakaboana paid an official visit to India on 8-10 September, coinciding with the visit of the second batch of 30 Malagasy Civil Servants at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG). She also held bilateral meetings with the MoS (Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions).



MoS (Defence) led a high-level Indian delegation and paid a courtesy call on the Prime Minister of Madagascar Christian Ntsay in Antananarivo, June 2025

Development Cooperation, Economy and Culture

The Director General of NCGG paid an official visit to Madagascar on 24-28 March, during which the India-Madagascar MoU for a capacity-building training programme for Madagascar's civil servants was signed.

Secretary General of the Ministry of Public Health of Madagascar Lethicia Lydia Yasmine took part in the second edition of Policymakers' Visit on Indian Pharmacopoeia held in New Delhi and Ahmedabad from 16 to 19 June.

On 31 July, a business delegation from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) visited Madagascar for the 'Southern African Development Community (SADC) Industrialisation Week' and participated in the 'India-SADC Business Forum'. The Malagasy delegation was led by their Minister of Industrialisation and Trade David Herizo Ralambofiringa.

Defence Cooperation

Minister of Armed Forces of Madagascar, Lt. Gen. Sahivelo Lala Monja Delphin led a delegation for 'Aero India-2025' held in Bengaluru on 10-14 February. On the sidelines, he held bilateral meetings with the Raksha Mantri. Six observers from the Armed Forces of Madagascar took part in the AIKEYME Exercise held in Dar-es-Salam (Tanzania) on 13-18 April. Malagasy Navy General Staff officials also served as observers at the 10th NATPOLREX in Chennai, held on 4-6 October.



Raksha Mantri held bilateral discussions with Madagascar's Minister of Armed Forces Lt. Gen Sahivelo Lala Monja Delphin in Bengaluru, February 2025

A delegation led by the Commandant of the Madagascar Staff College attended the First Army Chiefs' Conclave of United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) hosted by the Indian Army in New Delhi from 13 to 16 October.

ICGS Saksham visited the Port of Antsiranana (Diana Region) as part of its overseas deployment to Madagascar on 18-21 March. The officers of the Indian Coast Guard and the Malagasy Navy also conducted several joint activities, including a tabletop exercise-cum-demonstration on Marine Oil Pollution Response.

Mauritius

India and Mauritius share a special, close, and enduring relationship rooted in shared ancestry, culture, history, and strong people-to-people ties. This partnership lies at the confluence of India's Neighbourhood First policy, Vision MAHASAGAR, and India's commitment to the Global South. This year, bilateral ties were elevated to an Enhanced Strategic Partnership, India's first in the region, underscoring the trust and depth of this special relationship.

Over the years, the cooperation has expanded to diverse sectors including health, education, science and technology, space, maritime security, and capacity building. Following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam in April, Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam conveyed his condolences to the Prime Minister and strongly condemned the heinous act—reflecting the solidarity and mutual empathy that define the India–Mauritius bond.

Bilateral Cooperation

The year witnessed several high-level engagements. Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Mauritius on 11-12 March, during which the relationship was elevated to an Enhanced Strategic Partnership and a Joint Vision Document was adopted.

Eight MoUs were signed across sectors, including training and capacity-building programs for public service officers; training for diplomats; local currency settlement of bilateral trade; cooperation in the field of small and medium enterprises; cooperation in the blue economy; an Indian rupee-denominated line of credit; and white shipping information exchange. Several development projects, including Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation (AIPSI), were jointly inaugurated.

Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam paid a State Visit to India from 9 to 16 September, during which India extended a Special Economic Package worth USD 680 million to Mauritius and signed seven MoUs, including cooperation in renewable energy, space, hydrography, and port development.

Prime Minister Ramgoolam met with the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji at Rashtrapati Bhavan on 16 September. During his visit, he travelled to Mumbai, Varanasi, Ayodhya, and Tirupati.

While welcoming Prime Minister Ramgoolam and his delegation to the Rashtrapati Bhavan, Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji emphasised that Mauritius holds a special place in India's Neighbourhood First policy, Vision MAHASAGAR, and in India's commitment to the Global South.

India also agreed to set up a 17.5 MW Floating Solar PV project at Tamarind Falls under the G2G framework, assist in the development and surveillance of the Chagos Marine Protected Area, redevelop and restructure the port in Mauritius, and provide annual budgetary support of USD 25 million for the current financial year.

Hon'ble Vice-President met Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam on his visit to Seychelles to attend the swearing-in ceremony of the President of Seychelles on 26 October. The then Chief Justice of India also undertook an official visit on 3 October, during which he met the Mauritian leadership and delivered the inaugural 'Sir Maurice Rault Memorial Lecture' on 'The Rule of Law in the Biggest Democracy.'

The Foreign Minister of Mauritius Dhananjay Ramful participated in the eighth Indian Ocean Conference in Oman on 16-17 February and met EAM on the sidelines. The Foreign Secretary paid an official visit to Mauritius on 1 July, during which he called on the President, Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, and Foreign Minister and handed over specialised anti-drug detection equipment to strengthen Mauritius' operational capacities.

Development Cooperation

Development cooperation is a key pillar of the Enhanced Strategic Partnership between India and Mauritius. This partnership includes over 130 projects, of which 96 are classified as High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs). About 98 projects have already been completed, with notable recent projects include AIPSI, Metro Express projects, ENT hospital, and a mediclinic.

Among the ongoing initiatives are the supply of e-buses, the construction of the National Archives and Library Building, the renal transplant unit, and the forensic science laboratory. India has also announced support for the construction of a new Parliament building in Mauritius and provided grant assistance for phase II of the HICDPs.

Furthermore, institutional linkages and people-centred initiatives have been strengthened. The first batch of 10 e-buses were handed over to Mauritius. Several delegations from the Central Electricity Authority and the National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) have also visited Mauritius. India has also conducted training and capacity-building efforts in Mauritius under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) program and India-Africa Maitri Scholarship program.

Opportunities for enhanced collaboration have been identified in areas such as renewable energy, digital innovation, and maritime security, reflecting the vibrant ties between the two nations.

Mauritius is one of the largest beneficiaries of the ITEC Program. 352 Mauritians (201 under Civilian programs; 151 under Defence Program) were trained in India. In September, an MoU was signed between the National Centre for Good Governance and the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms of Mauritius for the training of Mauritian Civil servants in India. Under this MoU, 47 civil servants were trained. Also, 17 officers, including seven Mauritian diplomats, underwent training at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service.



Prime Minister and Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam jointly inaugurated the Atal Bihari Vajpayee Institute of Public Service and Innovation in Mauritius and e-inaugurated 20 High-Impact Community Development Projects, an India-assisted Area Health Centre (AHC) in Mauritius, March 2025

Defence and Security Cooperation

India completed the refit of the Mauritius Coast Guard Ship (MCGS) Valiant, while the refit of MCGS Barracuda is underway. National Security Guard (NSG) provided training to two batches of the Mauritian Police Force in anti-highjacking, hostage rescue, and counter-terrorism operations in Mauritius. India's Special Protection Group (SPG) conducted training for Mauritius' VIP Security Unit from 27 October to 8 November. During the year, Indian ships, including INS Imphal, INS Teg, INS Sunayna, INS Shardul, and INS Sutlej, made port calls at Port Louis. INS Savitri made a port call in November, marking the 191st anniversary of the arrival of indentured labourers from India in Mauritius.

Economy, Trade and Scientific Cooperation

During the Prime Minister's State Visit to Mauritius in March, an agreement was signed between the Reserve Bank of India and the Bank of Mauritius to establish a framework promoting the use of local currencies (INR and MUR) in cross-border transactions. In addition, several key MoUs were signed, including one to enhance cooperation in the MSME sector, another to strengthen collaboration against financial crimes, and a third focused on ocean-related partnerships.

During the Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam's visit to India in September, cooperation was further advanced through the signing of an MoU on Science and Technology and on oceanography, among others. The ties witnessed continued momentum with meetings of the Joint Trade Committee and Joint Working Group under the Memorandum of Cooperation in ICT in November. Also, an ISRO delegation visited Mauritius for three days in November to discuss the India-Mauritius Joint Satellite project. During their visit, they held technical sessions with the Mauritius Research and Innovation Council (MRIC) and conducted the fourth Joint Working Group meeting for the satellite.



ISRO delegation paid a three-day visit to Mauritius in connection with the India-Mauritius Joint Satellite initiative, November 2025

Cultural and People-to-People ties

In January, Mauritius sent one of the largest delegations to the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in India, led by senior Ministers, including Minister of Arts and Culture Mahendra Gondeea and Junior Minister of Foreign Affairs Hambyrajen Narsinghen. Dr. Sarita Boodhoo, a champion for Bhojpuri heritage in Mauritius, was conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award. Secretary (South) led a delegation for the fifth Executive Board Meeting of the World Hindi Secretariat (WHS) in Mauritius on 13-17 July. The delegation held meetings with the Minister of Arts and Culture and the Minister of Education alongside the WHS Executive Board meeting.

Seychelles

India and Seychelles enjoy friendly bilateral relations. India views Seychelles as a crucial partner in the IOR, aligning with its Vision MAHASAGAR and India's commitment to the Global South. Seychelles considers India a reliable partner for development assistance and capacity building and supports India in multilateral forums. Key areas of cooperation between the two countries include development partnerships, defence collaboration, capacity-building initiatives, and diaspora engagement.

Bilateral engagements

The Hon'ble Vice-President visited Seychelles to attend the swearing-in ceremony of Seychelles President Patrick Herminie on 26-27 October. During the visit, he called on President Herminie and extended India's felicitation on his election. He also met with Seychelles Vice-President Sebastien Pillay and addressed the Indian community in Seychelles. He extended Prime Minister's invitation to President Herminie to visit India at a mutually convenient time.



Hon'ble Vice-President met Vice-President-elect of Seychelles Sebastien Pillay at the State House in Victoria, Seychelles, October 2025

From Seychelles' side, Minister of Internal Affairs Errol Fonseka attended India Foundation's India Ocean Conference (IOC) in Muscat held on 16-17 February. Minister of Land and Housing Billy Rangasamy participated in the inaugural session of the 'Kumbh Global Summit on Development and Sustainability' on 21-23 February. The then Minister of Agriculture, Environment and Climate Change Flavien Joubert attended the International Solar Alliance's (ISA) seventh Regional Committee Meeting in September.

Minister of Health Marvin Fanny attended the second Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in December. During his visit, Minister Fanny also held discussions with Hospital Services Consultancy Corporation Limited (India), HLL Lifecare Limited, Rapid Response Cell and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission. In addition, bilateral ties witnessed institutional cooperation through the Second Joint Consultative Committee on Hydrographic Cooperation held at the National Hydrographic Office, Dehradun in June.

Development Cooperation

India continued its socio-economic partnership with Seychelles by advancing HICDP projects, including road construction and procurement of medical equipment. In line with the new government's priorities in Seychelles, India donated 3.5 tonnes of essential medicines and medical supplies to Seychelles in November. Also, India trained 30 Seychelles citizens under ITEC civil and defence programmes. Under the Quad-climate initiative, three ISA projects (solar rooftop, solar pump and solar chiller) are being executed in Seychelles.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

India-Seychelles bilateral trade grew by 10.97 per cent in 2024-25. The value of trade stood at USD 94.19 million for the period from April to September 2025, with Indian exports totalling USD 91.73 million and imports totalling USD 2.46 million during FY 2024-25. In March, Indigo Airlines commenced direct flights between Mumbai and Mahe Island, operating four flights per week to increase tourism, trade, and people-to-people ties.

Defence Cooperation

During the year, Patrol Boat (PB) Hermes was replaced by the new Indian Coast Guard vessel PB Bodeuse, gifter to the Seychelles Defence Forces (SDF). Seychelles also participated in Ex-AIKEYME in April and the 'Indian Ocean Naval Symposium' (IONS) Emerging Leaders Panel Discussion (ELPD-2025) in August.



India formally handed over a Patrol Boat Boudeuse to the Seychelles Defence Forces in an official commissioning ceremony at the Seychelles Coast Guard base on Île Perseverance, Seychelles, February 2025

The High–Level Joint Defence Co-ordination Committee (HLJDCC) Meeting co-chaired by the Defence Attaché (DA) at Indian Embassy in Seychelles and Chief of Defence Forces of SDF was held on 31 July. An officer from SDF attended 'Long Navigation Course' at Navigational Direction School in Kochi from April to November under the ITEC scheme.

During January-December, 11 ships visited Seychelles, including one that participated in the 49th National Day Celebrations. In November, Seychelles became a full member of the Colombo Security Conclave at the seventh High-level NSA talks. The 14th session of the HLJDCC was chaired by SDF Major General Michael Rosette and Indian DA to Seychelles in December.

Cultural Cooperation

Cultural relations between India and Seychelles are an essential pillar of bilateral ties. The Indian diaspora in Seychelles has remained connected to Indian traditions, values, and ethos while bringing plurality to Seychelles' society. In 2025, a cultural troupe from the ICCR cultural troupe visited Seychelles for Republic Day and performed at iconic sites, including the National Museum. A cultural group from Seychelles visited India to participate in Surajkund Mela on 7-23 February.



Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Seychelles Sylvestre Radegonde received the Commanding Officers of INS Shardul, INS Tir, and ICGS Sarathi at Maison Queau de Quinssy, Mahé, Seychelles, September 2025

CHAPTER

3

South East Asia and Oceania

India's engagement with Southeast Asia and Oceania continued to expand and deepen across various levels this year.

Australia

In 2025, the India–Australia Comprehensive Strategic Partnership marked five years, achieving remarkable growth in bilateral ties across trade and investment, renewable energy, defence and security, skills and education, research and innovation and people-to-people and cultural exchanges. Earlier in the year, Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese launched 'A New Roadmap for Australia's Economic Engagement with India' on 26 February to bolster economic ties between the two counties.

Later in the year, Prime Minister met with Prime Minister Albanese on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Canada on 17 June. Both leaders also met on the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa on 21 November and the India-Australia-Canada Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership on 22 November.



Prime Minister met Prime Minister of Australia Anthony Albanese in Johannesburg, November 2025.

EAM and Foreign Minister of Australia Penny Wong met on the sidelines of Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting (QFMM) in Washington DC on 21 January and then on the sidelines of Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Washington DC on 2 July. Later, the two Ministers had a pull-aside meeting on the sidelines of G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 25 September in New York held on the margins of the UNGA high-level week. In November, Foreign Minister Penny Wong visited India and co-chaired the 16th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue with EAM.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia Penny Wong on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New York, September 2025.

This year, defence cooperation was strengthened with sustained momentum. Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of Australia Richard Marles visited India on 3-4 June. Later in the year, Raksha Mantri paid his first visit in 12 years to Australia on 9-10 October. During this visit, both sides decided to establish an Annual Defence Ministers' dialogue between the two countries. Later in the visit, the first Australia-India Defence Industry Roundtable was held in Sydney on 10 October. Raksha Mantri held discussions with his Australian counterpart, and both sides signed three agreements to further enhance cooperation in information sharing, maritime domain, and joint activities.

Earlier in the year, the ninth round of Defence Policy Talks was held in New Delhi in March. The Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) paid his first official visit to Australia (4-7 March), after which the Chief of the Australian Army visited India (11-14 August). Defence and security cooperation was further enhanced through mutual participation in military exercises, namely-TALISMAN SABRE 2025, TARANG SHAKTI and AUSTRAHIND. Chief of Integrated Defence Staff (CISC) visited Australia on 26-28 July to witness the 11th edition of the Exercise TALISMAN SABRE 2025. India also hosted the third edition of the General Rawat Young Defence Officers' Exchange Programme from 14-26 October. Later in the month, the 12th Army-to-Army Staff talks were held on 29-31 October.

On the energy cooperation front, the fifth India-Australia Energy Dialogue was held in New Delhi on 16 October co-chaired by Minister for Power and Housing and Urban Affairs and Australia's Minister for Energy and Climate Change Chris Bowen.

The third Australia-India Education and Skills Council (AIESC) meeting was held in New Delhi on 8 December, co-chaired by Minister of Education and MoS (IC, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship) with the Minister of Education of Australia Jason Clare and the Minister for Skills and Training of Australia Andrew Giles.

Further mutual exchange of bilateral visits deepened cooperation in key areas. These included the outgoing visit to Australia by MoS (Skill Development and Entrepreneurship) from 10 to 15 September. Incoming visits from Australia to India during this period included the visit of Minister for Multicultural Affairs, International Development and Small Business of Australia (15-18 October), visit of Premier of South Australia (23-28 March) and the visit of the Premier of Queensland (30 August-1 September). Both sides also held the first-ever Senior Officials-level Consular Dialogue in New Delhi in September.

Brunei

Secretary (East) met the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Brunei Darussalam on the margins of East Asia Summit Senior Officials' Meeting in Penang, Malaysia on 10 June. They discussed ways to deepen the bilateral partnership between India and Brunei Darussalam as well as cooperation under ASEAN and other frameworks. A delegation led by Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Defence of Brunei Poh Kui Choon visited New Delhi from 8–10 December for the inaugural Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting on Defence Cooperation.

Brunei has been rendering support to India's space programme for over two decades. On 29 January, the landmark 100th GSLV-F15 launch was supported by ISRO Telemetry, Tracking and Command Network (ISTRAC) station in Brunei. The country also hosts a vibrant Indian community of over 15,000 people, contributing significantly to its socio-economic development. On 16 July, Thirunavukkarasu Ganesan, a member of the diaspora, was conferred the Most Honourable Order of the Crown of Brunei (DPMB) during His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah's 79th birthday celebration.



Thirunavukkarasu Ganesan was conferred the Most Honourable Order of the Crown of Brunei (DPMB) during His Majesty Sultan Haji Hassanal Bolkiah's 79th birthday celebration in Brunei, July 2025.

During the year, a defence delegation from the National Defence College visited Brunei Darussalam as part of a 'Strategic Neighbourhood Study Tour' from 1–3 September. The delegation interacted with Brunei's Minister of Defence-II, Deputy Minister of Finance, Army Chief and Deputy Chief of Royal Brunei Navy.

Cambodia

MoS (PM) visited Cambodia on 7-8 July. He had a Royal Audience with King of Cambodia Norodom Sihamoni and called on the President of the Senate Hun Sen and Prime Minister of Cambodia Hun Manet.



MoS (PM) called on the President of Senate Hun Sen during his visit to Cambodia, July 2025

The third India-Cambodia Foreign Office Consultation was convened in Siem Reap, Cambodia on 10 March. The Indian delegation was led by the then Secretary (East) and the Cambodian delegation was led by Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Cambodia Un Kheang.



India's Ambassador to Cambodia hands over an Infantry Weapon Training Simulator to the Royal Cambodian Army at the Royal Cambodian Army Headquarters in Cambodia, February 2025

As part of our defence cooperation, INS Sujata and ICGS Veera made a port call to Cambodia on 14-17 February. India also gifted an Infantry Weapon Training Simulator to the Royal Cambodian Army on 17 February. Later in the year, a Cambodian delegation led by the Deputy Commander of the Royal Cambodian Army joined the First Army Chiefs' Conclave of United Nations Troop Contributing Countries (UNTCCs) hosted by the Indian Army in New Delhi from 13-16 October. This year, two districts of Cambodia were declared mine-free under the ongoing project to make three districts and one commune in Koh Kong Province mine-free, funded by an Indian grant of USD 1.5 million.

The Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) led a multi-sectoral business delegation from India to Cambodia in December 2025. Indian companies participated in the 18th Cambodia Trade Expo in December 2025. The Indian booths were visited by Cambodia's Deputy Prime Minister and the Minister of Commerce.

During the year, a total of 191 Cambodian officials attended training courses under ITEC programme in India. The National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG) conducted 11 customised training courses, including three on public policy and governance and one on countering illegal drug trafficking, for Cambodian civil servants, with over 400 officials trained to date. In December, an MoU was signed between NPCI International Payments Ltd and ACLEDA Bank of Cambodia to operationalise cross-border payments via UPI and Khmer QR. Cambodia also joined the International Big Cat Alliance on 9 April.

Indonesia

Indonesia remained India's second-largest trading partner in ASEAN in 2024–25, with bilateral trade totalling USD 28.10 billion. Indonesian FDI inflow grew by USD 5.18 million amounting to a total of about USD 659.30 million.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto viewed the 76th Republic Day Parade in New Delhi, January 2025

President Prabowo Subianto paid his first State Visit to India during 23–26 January and was Chief Guest at India's 76th Republic Day celebrations. In a historic first, a 352-member marching and band contingent from Indonesian Armed Forces participated in India's 76th Republic Day Parade. President Prabowo met Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and held bilateral talks with Prime Minister. The then Hon'ble Vice-President and EAM called on President Prabowo. The two sides concluded several bilateral documents in fields of health cooperation, traditional medicine quality assurance, maritime safety and security, digital development, and cultural exchange. The third India-Indonesia CEOs Forum was held on the sidelines of the State Visit and a joint report was presented before Prime Minister and President Prabowo.



Prime Minister and President of Indonesia Prabowo Subianto participated in delegation-level talks in New Delhi, January 2025

EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Indonesia Sugiono on the sidelines of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on 27 September. A nine-member All-Party Parliamentary Delegation visited Jakarta on 28–31 May as part of India's post-Operation Sindoor diplomatic outreach, which received strong support from Indonesian stakeholders. Minister for Cultural Affairs of Indonesia Fadli Zon represented Indonesia at the WAVES Summit 2025. Minister of Human Rights of Indonesia Natalius Pigai visited India in August taking forward bilateral cooperation in the field of human rights.

India–Indonesia relations this year were further bolstered through conduct of key institutional dialogue mechanisms. The third Policy Planning Dialogue, held in Jakarta on 23 April, led to the signing of an MoU on Policy Dialogue and Think Tank Interaction. The first Joint Committee Meeting on Science and Technology was virtually held between the Department of Science and Technology (DST), India and National Research and Innovation Agency (BRIN), Indonesia on 12 August. The seventh Joint Working Group (JWG) between Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of India and National Narcotics Agency (BNN) of Indonesia was conducted on 4 June. The second India–Indonesia Track 1.5 Dialogue was held in Jakarta during 15–16 September with support of MEA and organised by Gateway House, Mumbai and Centre for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) Indonesia.

Multiple high-level delegations from Indonesia undertook study visits to India to learn about various schemes and policies, such as the PM POSHAN scheme, the Public Distribution System, rice fortification, fertiliser subsidy reforms and transition to renewables.

This year witnessed multiple engagements to boost defence cooperation between the two nations. Indonesia's Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin visited New Delhi on 29 November to co-chair the third India–Indonesia Defence Ministers' Dialogue with Raksha Mantri. CDS visited Indonesia on 26–30 October. CDS met Defence Minister Sjafrie Sjamsoeddin and Indonesian National Armed Forces Commander Gen. Agus Subiyanto. Indian Naval Ships INS Mumbai, INS Shardul, INS Satpura, INS Saryu, INS Sandhayak, INS Kadmatt, and Coast Guard Ship Shaunak, conducted Operational Turnarounds (OTRs) and participated in La Perouse 2025. The 11th Army Staff Talks were held on 8-10 July in Indonesia while the third Navy Staff Talks were held on 17 September in India and sixth Air Staff Talks were conducted on 7-9 October in Indonesia. The 44th edition of India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) between Indian and Indonesian Navy was also conducted during 13-21 July. India participated in the fifth edition of Indonesia's multilateral naval exercise

KOMODO-25, in Bali in February. Indian Coast Guard Ship Vigraha visited Jakarta on 2–5 December while the 10th Exercise Garuda Shakti was conducted on 3-12 December in India. Later in the month, the 45th edition of the India–Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND–INDO CORPAT) was conducted on 10-16 December. During that month, defence industry collaboration deepened through India's participation in Aero India 2025 and the INDO Defence Expo 2025 in Jakarta.



Indian Navy participated in the fifth edition of Indonesia's multilateral naval exercise KOMODO-25 in Indonesia, February 2025

On 9 December, Ministry of Culture gifted a replica of the ninth-century Nalanda Copper Plate artefact to representatives of Indonesia's Ministry of Culture, on the sidelines of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage (IGC) Meeting on Safeguarding Intangible Cultural Heritage in New Delhi. The replica reflects the deep and enduring civilisational connection between India and Indonesia. On 18 December, Indonesia's Ministry of Culture held a commemorative event to mark the incorporation of the replica into the new Muarajambi Museum, which was attended by Culture Minister of Indonesia Fadli Zon.

In response to a request from Indonesia's Ministry of Health, 3,600 Prussian Blue capsules were dispatched by India and handed over to the Indonesian side following a radioactive contamination incident that occurred in October at Cikande Serang, Indonesia as there was a critical requirement for Prussian Blue capsules, to help mitigate the effects of Cesium-137 (Cs-137) contamination.

Lao PDR

Political Commissar of Lao Air Force Brigadier General Thanoukone Souliyaseng participated in Aero India 2025 on 9-14 February.

Under Mekong Ganga Cooperation Plan of Action (2019-24), in coordination with the Department of Tourism, State Government of Uttar Pradesh, India organised a nine-day trip for 10 participants from Lao PDR to prominent Buddhist sites in India, including Sarnath, Bodhgaya, Nalanda, Rajgir, Varanasi, Kushinagar, Kapilvastu and Shravasti on 2-10 June. Later, a familiarisation visit of Lao nationals to Buddhist tourist sites in Uttar Pradesh was organised by Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department on 3–10 March. Three Lao journalists also participated in the familiarisation visit for South-east Asian journalists organised by XP Division from 23 September to 2 October. A 10-member Lao artists group travelled to India to participate in the ninth International Folk Festival organised by ICCR on 1-10 October.

A nutrition project worth around USD 1 million, funded by India under the UNDP fund, aiming to address malnutrition in Lao PDR through fortification of rice was inaugurated in Vientiane on 6 March. The announcement of this project for improving nutrition security in Lao PDR was made during the visit of Prime Minister to Vientiane in October 2024. Under the ITEC programme, 22 Lao officials have been trained.

This year, Embassy in Vientiane, in coordination with Lao authorities, carried out the rescue and repatriation of 1418 Indian nationals trapped in cyber-scam centres at Golden Triangle Special Economic Zone in Lao PDR.

Malaysia

India-Malaysia bilateral cooperation during the year was marked by the momentum generated from the elevation of ties to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in August 2024 and Malaysia's Presidency of ASEAN, which culminated in the 22nd ASEAN-India Leaders' Summit attended by Prime Minister virtually on 26 October and with the participation of EAM in the 20th East Asia Summit on 26-28 October.

Numerous exchanges and high-level visits were concluded during the year, including the bilateral meeting between Prime Minister and Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim on the sidelines of BRICS Summit in Rio De Janeiro, Brazil on 6 July; visit of Raksha Mantri to Kuala Lumpur for the 12th ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting – Plus (ADMM-Plus), from 31 October to 1 November, visit of MoS (PM) to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 18-19 April to inaugurate the India-ASEAN Tourism Pavillion at the Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (MATTA) Fair and again on 10-11 July for the ASEAN-India Foreign Minister's Meeting and other related meetings, visit of MoS (Commerce & IT) to Malaysia for the 22nd ASEAN-India Economic Minister's meeting, among others.

Malaysia's Minister of Digital Gobind Singh Deo visited Bhubaneshwar from 7 to 9 January for the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas celebrations. Later in the year, Minister of Plantations and Commodities of Malaysia Datuk Seri Johari Abdul Ghani (24-26 September), Deputy Minister of Law and Institutional Reform M. Kulasegaran (5-8 August and 9-12 July) and Deputy Minister of Investment, Trade and Industry of Malaysia Liew Chin Tong (17-21 March) also visited India during the year.



MoS (PM) met Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Cambodia Prak Sokhonn on the sidelines of ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Malaysia, July 2025

The first India-Malaysia Security Dialogue was convened in New Delhi on 7 January. The dialogue was co-chaired by NSA and Director General of the National Security Council of Malaysia Raja Dato Nushirwan Bin Zainal Abidin. The 13th India-Malaysia Defence Cooperation Meeting (MIDCOM) was convened in Kuala Lumpur on 19 February. Both sides concluded Terms of Reference (ToR) on establishment of a Strategic Affairs Working Group and on establishment of Su-30 forum. MoS (Defence)-led delegation comprising 12 defence manufacturing companies participated in the Langkawi International Maritime and Aerospace Exhibition (LIMA) 2025 during 19-22 May. Furthermore, the fifth edition of the Joint Military Exercise Harimau Shakti, between the Indian Army and the Royal Malaysian Army was conducted between 5-18 December, in Rajasthan, India.

This year also witnessed the first meeting of the Malaysia-India Digital Council under the MoU on Cooperation in Digital Technologies, signed during the State Visit of Prime Minister Anwar Ibrahim to India in August 2024. The meeting was convened on 26 August. Further, the Thiruvalluvar Chair of Indian Studies in the Malaya University, announced by Prime Minister in August 2024, was operationalised in October.

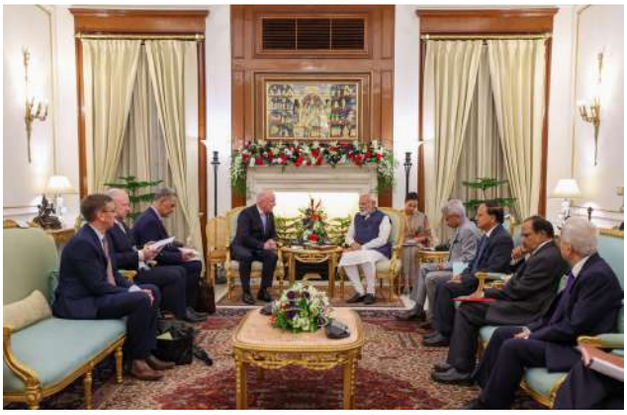
The 10th India-Malaysia Bilateral Technical Meeting on Traditional Medicine was convened on 18 December in New Delhi, on the sidelines of the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine.

Some of the important agreements concluded during the year include: MoU between Central Council of Research in Homeopathy (CCRH) with University of Cyberjaya; MoU between IIT Madras Global and Advanced Semiconductor Academy (ASEM), Malaysia on cooperation in training and capacity building in semiconductor design and MoU between National Small Industries Cooperation and SME Corp of Malaysia.

New Zealand

In 2025, the India-New Zealand bilateral relationship witnessed further strengthening led by political engagement at the highest levels.

India and New Zealand announced negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA) in March. Following several rounds of negotiations, the India-New Zealand FTA was concluded in December, becoming one of India's fastest-concluded FTAs. This FTA enhances market access and tariff preferences for Indian exports to New Zealand, while serving as a gateway to the wider Oceania and Pacific Island markets.



Prime Minister held discussions with the Prime Minister of New Zealand Christopher Luxon at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, March 2025

Prime Minister Christopher Luxon paid an official visit to India on 16–20 March. He was the Chief Guest and Keynote Speaker at the 10th Raisina Dialogue. During the visit, New Zealand joined the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) and the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI). Both sides announced the launch of negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement (FTA). Bilateral agreements in the fields of defence, education, horticulture, forestry, and sports were signed during the visit. The two sides also welcomed the 'Sporting Unity' events planned in 2026, to recognise and celebrate 100 years of sporting contact between India and New Zealand. The visit coincided with the port-call by HMNZS Te Kaha to Mumbai from 20–24 March. India also contributed officers, including a Deputy Commander, to the Combined Task Force 150 led by the Royal New Zealand Navy from January to July.



Prime Minister of New Zealand along with Chief of Navy, Royal New Zealand Navy (CN-RNZN) visited the indigenously built destroyer of the Indian Navy, INS Surat, at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai, March 2025

Other ministerial visits included the Minister of Commerce and Industry, who visited New Zealand from 5 to 8 November. This was the first official visit by the Minister, accompanied by the largest business delegation from India to New Zealand, which included members of all three prominent business associations in India, FICCI, CII, ASSOCHAM and representatives of prominent startups. Later in the month, Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Trade and Investment of New Zealand Todd McClay visited India on 17 November, leading a trade Mission to India. He also visited India on 10 December in connection with FTA negotiations.

MoS (PM) visited Auckland from 8–10 May to attend the India–New Zealand Business Council (INZBC) event. During the visit, he had a brief pull aside call on Prime Minister Christopher Luxon, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Winston Peters and Minister of Trade and Agriculture Todd McClay. Later in the month, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Winston Peters paid an official visit to India on 29 May during which he had detailed discussions on the bilateral relationship with EAM in New Delhi. EAM also met Prime Minister Christopher Luxon on 27 October on the sidelines of the East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur.



MoS (PM) called on Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of New Zealand, May 2025

As regards meetings at the level of senior officials, the sixth Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) was held on 8 September. On the defence cooperation front, the first India-New Zealand Defence Strategic Dialogue under the MoU on Defence Cooperation was held in New Delhi on 5 August.

Pacific Island Countries (PICs)

India has strong historical engagement with the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) under the Act East Policy and priority given to engagements in the Indo-Pacific region. India stepped up its efforts to engage with countries in this region through a number of high-level visits and under the landmark initiative Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC). During the year, India continued to step up its engagements with the Pacific Island Countries (PICs).

From 24 to 26 August, Prime Minister of Fiji Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka paid his first official visit to India. The visit witnessed the exchange of eight bilateral documents/MoUs, including the MoU on Design, Construction, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of a 100-bedded Super-Specialty Hospital in Fiji (an announcement by Prime Minister during the third FIPIC Summit) and an MoU on the supply of medicines under Janaushadhi Scheme along with 17 announcements aimed at deepening cooperation. Fiji also joined the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) during the visit.

EAM called on Prime Minister Rabuka on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference (MSC) in Germany in February. Later in the year, EAM chaired a meeting of the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC) Foreign Ministers in New York on 24 September on the sidelines of the 80th UNGA.

There have been several other Ministerial and official visits (both incoming and outgoing) and engagements during the year, signifying the positive momentum in the relationship between India and Pacific Island countries. Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs of Fiji Pio Tikoduadua visited India to attend Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru from 10–12 February, where he held a bilateral meeting with Raksha Mantri. During the month, the Minister of Employment, Productivity and Workplace Relations of Fiji Agni Deo Singh visited India from 18–23 February to attend the Kumbh

Global Development Summit in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh. Later in the year, Minister for Health and Medical Services of Fiji Ratu Atonio Rabici Lalabalavu and Secretary of the Department of Health and Social Affairs of FSM of Fiji Marcus Samo participated in the second WHO Traditional Medicine Global Summit in New Delhi held on 17-19 December.

Later in the year, at the invitation of the Government of Papua New Guinea, MoS (PM) visited Port Moresby on 16 September and attended the 50th Anniversary of PNG's Independence Day celebrations. During the visit, he held a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea James Marape, during which both sides reviewed the status of cooperation and reaffirmed India's commitment to supporting PNG across key sectors. MoS (PM) also visited Fiji from 10–12 May as the Guest of Honour at the Girmit Day Commemoration in Labasa. During the visit, an MoU on recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia by Fiji was signed and a yoga centre in Seaqaqa was virtually inaugurated. The Health Ministers of Fiji and Nauru visited India on an official visit to India in April and July, respectively.



MoS (PM) called on the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea during his visit in Papua New Guinea, September 2025

The sixth India-Fiji Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) were held in Suva on 30 July. On the defence cooperation side, the first India-Fiji Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting under the 2017 MoU on Defence Cooperation was held in Fiji on 17–18 July. The two sides also held a virtual meeting of the Joint Working Group on Health Cooperation in August.

During this year, INS Kadmatt made a port call in Port Moresby from 30 August to 8 October and participated in the celebrations marking the 50th anniversary of PNG's independence. INS Kadmatt led the International Fleet Review, underscoring India's solidarity with PNG on this historic occasion. INS Kadmatt also made a three-day port call in Fiji for a goodwill visit in September as part of this overseas deployment.

As a part of outcomes of the Prime Minister of Fiji's visit to India in August, a group of 10 pandits from TISI Sangam Fiji and Shree Sanatan Dharam Pratinidhi Sabha of Fiji travelled to India in November to participate in the International Gita Conference and a month-long "Purohit Course" organised at Banaras Hindu University under the ITEC program of the Ministry.

Development Cooperation

India supports the PICs in their socio-economic development through community-oriented projects by providing annual grant-in-aid of USD 2.8 million (USD 200,000 to each of the PICs). These projects are in diverse areas such as community development, solar electrification, purchase and supply of agricultural equipment, computers, LED bulbs for schools, sewing machines, dialysis machines, portable saw mills, boats and pick-up trucks, construction of sea wall, and coral farms. India sent five MT of high-quality cowpea seeds in July to support food security and agricultural resilience in Fiji.

In line with the announcements made by Prime Minister during the third FIPIC Summit in Port Moresby in May 2023, India supplied Haemodialysis machines to Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Palau, Nauru, Republic of Marshall Islands and Kiribati among the Pacific Island Countries. Two Yoga Centres were also set up in Fiji.

A Tripartite Agreement on Community Access to Resilient Essential Health in the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), being funded under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, was signed on 29 November.

Quick Impact Projects

During the 53rd Pacific Islands Forum, MoS (PM) announced that India will undertake one Quick Impact Project of each country's choice, worth USD 50,000, in each of the 14 PICs, based on proposals received. QIPs are short-gestation, high-visibility projects with a normal gestation period of up to one year, aimed at providing direct benefit to local communities, with results that are immediate and visible. The QIPs related to socio-economic development in Fiji and Nauru were initiated during the year.

- **Capacity Building:** A major part of India's continued engagement with the PICs is in the form of development assistance under South-South Cooperation, primarily delivered through capacity building (civil and defence training under ITEC), ICCR scholarships and grant-in-aid projects. Diplomats from the PICs regularly attend special training courses organised by the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service in New Delhi.
- **Medical Supplies:** Medicines and medical supplies are regularly donated to the PICs through bilateral grants. A consignment of Anti-Retro Viral (ARV) drugs was dispatched to Fiji in November to support its health program.
- **People to People ties and Cultural links:** India has close cultural and historical ties with PICs, characterised by cultural exchanges and cooperation in the field of education. Fiji, with strong cultural linkages with India, is a major diaspora country with almost 33 per cent of the total population being of Indian origin. Swami Sanyuktanand of the Fiji Sevashram Sangha received the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Award from Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji in recognition of his exceptional community service during the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas celebrations on 12 January.

Philippines

President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos Jr. paid a State Visit to India on 4-8 August, accompanied by a high-level delegation comprising 14 key Ministers, senior officials and a large business delegation. During the visit, India-Philippines relations were elevated to Strategic Partnership and a Plan of Action for implementation of the same was adopted. Some of the major outcomes from the visit included an invitation to the Philippines for participation at the Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean region (IFC-IOR) the conclusion of 13 MoUs in the areas of defence, space, science & technology, trade, digital technologies, culture, tourism, mutual legal assistance in criminal matters & transfer of sentenced persons; India agreed to assist in the development of a pilot Sovereign Data Cloud Infrastructure in the Philippines; and the exchange of 19 business agreements during the business engagements of the Philippine President in Bengaluru, on 7 August. A joint stamp commemorating 75 years of diplomatic ties between India and the Philippines was also released during the visit.

This year also witnessed the visit of the then Secretary of Foreign Affairs Enrique A. Manalo to India from 17-19 March for the 10th Raisina Dialogue and meeting with EAM on 19 March. Later in the year, EAM held a bilateral meeting with the Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro on the sidelines of the 80th UNGA Session in New York on 22 September. MoS (PM) visited the Philippines during 13-15 January. MoS (PM) also called on the Secretary of Foreign Affairs Ma. Theresa P. Lazaro on the sidelines of ASEAN-India Foreign Minister's Meeting and related meetings in Kuala Lumpur on 10 July. MoS (Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Education) visited Manila in October.

Defence cooperation between the two countries was strengthened with the signing of Terms of Reference (ToR) for establishment of Staff Talks between the Indian and the Philippine Army, Navy and Air Force. Four Indian Naval Ships, INS Delhi, INS Kiltan, INS Shakti and INS Sandhayak visited Manila during 30 July - 3 August for Maritime Cooperative Activities and demonstration of hydrographic capabilities. As part of the ongoing cooperation in HADR, Indian Coast Guard rescued the Filipino crew members on-

board MV MSC Elsa, in the aftermath of an accident off the coast of Kerala on 25 May. Armed Forces of the Philippines' Chief of Staff General Romeo S Brawner Jr. also visited India from 17 to 19 March for the 10th Raisina Dialogue and held bilateral meetings with the Chief of Defence Staff on 19 March.

Later in the year, a three-member delegation from the Ministry of Defence attended the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus Experts' Working Groups (ADMM plus EWG) on Maritime Security conference in Bohol, Philippines on 22-24 October. A delegation led by Under Secretary for Defence Technology Research and Industry Development of the Philippines Rene S. Diaz visited India during 16-24 November. A bilateral meeting between ICG and Philippines Coast Guard was held from 2 to 4 December in Manila.

India and Philippines also finalised the ToR for negotiation of a Preferential Trade Agreement to further expand trade cooperation. India continues implementing six QIPs in Manila, in the area of agriculture, disaster risk reduction, health-care and livelihood support under the MoU on Grant Assistance for implementation of QIPs signed in February 2023.

The fourth meeting of the Joint Working Group on Health and Medicine was held in New Delhi on 28 November. The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary (Health & Family Welfare) and Director General (Food and Drug Administration) Philippines Paolo S. Teston. A three-member delegation led by Director General of the Philippine Institute of Traditional and Alternative Healthcare Teresa C. Iñigo participated in the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in New Delhi on 17-19 December.

To promote tourism and further people-to-people linkages between the countries, the Philippines granted visa-free entry for up to 14 days to Indian tourists, whereas India granted gratis e-tourist visas to the Philippine nationals for up to 30 days with effect from 1 August. Direct flights between New Delhi and Manila also commenced on 1 October.

Singapore

India and Singapore celebrated the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations in 2025. President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam paid a state visit to India (New Delhi and Odisha) on 14-18 January. A joint stamp commemorating the 60th anniversary of diplomatic ties was released during the visit.

Prime Minister of Singapore Lawrence Wong paid an official visit to India on 2-4 September. During this visit, a Roadmap for India–Singapore Comprehensive Strategic Partnership (CSP Roadmap) was adopted. MoUs in the areas of green and digital shipping corridor, space, civil aviation, digital asset innovation, and establishment of a National Centre of Excellence for Skilling in Advanced Manufacturing in Chennai were exchanged. Later in the year, Prime Minister and Prime Minister of Singapore Lawrence Wong met on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg on 23 November.



Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Singapore Lawrence Wong held delegation-level talks at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, September 2025

The third round of the India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) was held in New Delhi on 13 August. From India, Minister of Finance & Corporate Affairs, EAM, Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics and Information Technology participated. Ministers from Singapore who participated were Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry Gan Kim Yong, Coordinating Minister for National Security and Minister for Home Affairs K. Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister for Digital Development and Information Josephine Teo, Minister for Manpower Tan See Leng, and Acting Minister for Transport Jeffrey Siow. The Ministers reviewed the progress of various bilateral cooperation initiatives under the six pillars of ISMR.



Third edition of India-Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) was convened in New Delhi, August 2025

EAM visited Singapore in July. During the visit, EAM called on the President of Singapore Tharman Shanmugaratnam and had meetings with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade & Industry and the Minister for Foreign Affairs. EAM also met the former Senior Minister & Coordinating Minister for National Security and Chairman-designate of Temasek Holdings. Their discussion focused on the transformation underway in India and opportunities for Temasek to expand its investments in India.

Later in the year, Minister of Commerce and Industry (2-5 October) and Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics and Information Technology (20-22 November) visited Singapore as well. Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways visited Singapore to participate in the Singapore Maritime Week from 24 to 28 March. MoS (IC,Law and Justice) visited Singapore for the inaugural meeting of the India-Singapore Joint Consultative Committee for Cooperation in Law and Dispute Resolution from 27 to 29 August. An All-Party Parliamentary Delegation also visited Singapore in 27-28 May. At the state level, Chief Ministers of Telangana (17-19 January), Assam (10-13 February). Andhra Pradesh (26-30 July). along with Ministerial delegations, visited Singapore. Incoming visits included Senior Minister of State for Transport and Law Murali Pillai who participated in the India Maritime Week (IMW) 2025 and met the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways in Mumbai on 29-30 October.

Furthermore, Minister of Law of Singapore Edwin Tong visited Mumbai (21 November) and New Delhi (22 November) to attend conferences organised by the Singapore International Arbitration Center. He also met MoS (IC Law and Justice) in New Delhi.



EAM met the Deputy Prime Minister Gan Kim Yong of Singapore in Singapore City, July 2025

Meetings of the Joint Working Groups on Health Cooperation (7 May), Cooperation in Digital Technologies (6 August), Trade & Investment (14 August), Skill Development and Education (2 September), Defence Working Group (4 September) and Personnel Management and Public Administration (10 September) were held in 2025.

In terms of defence cooperation, the Chief of Defence Staff visited Singapore for the 22nd Shangri-La Dialogue from 30 May to 1 June. India hosted the 14th edition of Bold Kurukshetra (26 July - 5 August) while Singapore hosted the 32nd edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise- SIMBEX from 28 July to 2 August. The fifth edition of the Singapore–India–Thailand Maritime Exercise (SITMEX) was hosted by Singapore in the Andaman Sea on 24-29 November. The India-Singapore Defence Working Group meeting was held in Singapore on 4 September. The fifth India-Singapore Defence Technical Steering Committee meeting was held in Singapore on 8-10 December. Staff talks of the Indian Navy on 6 November and Air Force on 19-21 November with respective Singapore Armed Forces counterparts were also conducted.

The fifth Atal Bihari Vajpayee Memorial Lecture was delivered by Chairman of Temasek Holdings and Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of Singapore Teo Chee Hean on the topic 'Enduring Partnerships in a Changing World' on 9 December.

Thailand

Prime Minister paid an official visit to Bangkok, Thailand from 3 to 4 April. During the visit, he also participated in the sixth BIMSTEC Summit. Prime Minister held bilateral talks with the then Prime Minister of Thailand Paetongtarn Shinawatra, where the two leaders agreed to elevate the existing bilateral relations to a Strategic Partnership. Both countries exchanged six documents, including those in the fields of handlooms and handicraft, digital technologies, MSMEs, and maritime heritage.



Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister of Thailand Paetongtarn Shinawatra witnessed the exchange of MoUs between EAM and the then Deputy Prime Minister of Thailand in Thailand, April 2025

The then Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Maris Sangiampongsa visited New Delhi to attend Raisina Dialogue on 17-19 March and had a bilateral meeting with EAM. President of the Constitutional Court of Thailand led a delegation to India during 4-9 August. Later in the year, EAM met the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Sihasak Phuangketkeow in Kuala Lumpur on the margins of ASEAN Summit meetings during 26-28 October. The Minister of Foreign Affairs Phuangketkeow also visited New Delhi on an official visit from 30 November to 1 December. During this visit, he held talks with EAM and met with the NSA.

MoS (Communications) visited Thailand during 15-17 January to attend the fifth ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting and related meetings in Bangkok. Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs and Governor of Bihar, visited Thailand to attend the fourth edition of SAMVAD (Global Hindu Buddhist Initiative) conference on 13-14 February. Prime Minister also delivered his address through a video message on this occasion. MoS (Home Affairs) visited Bangkok during 25-27 June to attend the third Ministerial Conference on Civil Registration and Vital Statistics in Bangkok.

Secretary (East) visited Bangkok to attend the International Conference on the Global Partnership Against Online Scams organised by Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand on 17-18 December. During the visit, he also had a bilateral meeting with the Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Thailand Eksiri Pintaruchi.

In the field of defence, Royal Thai Armed Forces' Chief of Defence Forces (CDF) General Songwit Noonpackdee paid an official visit to India from 21 to 24 January. The 13th Navy-to-Navy Staff Talks were held in Bangkok during 28-30 January. The 14th Air Force-to-Air Force Staff Talks were held in New Delhi during 19-22 May. Deputy Chief of Defence Forces of Thailand Air Chief Marshal Nonsee Intarasalee participated in Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru on 10-14 February. As part of the 88th Anniversary celebration of the Royal Thai Air Force, Suryakiran Aerobatic Team (SKAT) of Indian Air Force performed nine aircraft aerial demonstrations at Don Mueng, Bangkok on 7-8 March. The 40th Indo-Thai Coordinated Naval Patrol (CORPAT) between the Indian Navy and the Royal Thai Navy was held in Phuket, Thailand on 7-11 November. INS Karmuk participated in the exercise. ICGS Vigraha visited Phuket on 23-26 November. The sixth edition of the Army-to-Army Staff Talks between the Indian Army and the Royal Thai Army was held in Bangkok on 18 -20 December.

The 13th Joint Working Group (JWG) on Security Cooperation between India and Thailand was held in Bangkok on 18 June. The first India-Thailand bilateral meeting on Drug Control Cooperation was held in Bangkok on 27 May.

On 11 March, Indian Embassy in Bangkok, in coordination with the local authorities, secured repatriation of 283 Indian nationals by an IAF aircraft from Mae Sot, Thailand. Similarly, 861 Indian nationals were repatriated in November via seven IAF special flights from Mae Sot. Overall, our Embassy in Bangkok facilitated repatriation of around 1,500 Indian nationals working in scam centres in Myawaddy area from March to December.

Timor Leste

Timor-Leste was officially admitted as a member of the ASEAN on 26 October. This milestone will add a new dimension to the bilateral relationship between India and Timor-Leste and enable deeper engagement through the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership framework. On the same date, as a sign of our growing ties, Prime Minister extended QIPs to Timor Leste during the 22nd ASEAN-India Summit. On 31 October, MoS (PM) attended the reception hosted by the Embassy of Timor-Leste in New Delhi on the occasion of Timor-Leste accession to ASEAN. As part of India's development cooperation efforts with Timor-Leste, the two countries also agreed to set up a Centre for Excellence in IT (CEIT) by India.

Recognising the urgent need for vaccines due to the growing number of dog bite incidents and rabies cases, India donated 10,000 rabies vaccines and 2,000 immunoglobulins to Timor-Leste as part of India's

healthcare initiatives on 3 November. This contribution demonstrates India's commitment to ensuring that Timor-Leste does not face shortages in vital medical supplies and highlights the ongoing collaboration between the two countries in public health. India and Timor-Leste also appointed Ambassadors in each other's capitals during 2025 for further strengthening the Delhi-Dili partnership.

Vietnam

Upon the request of the Government of Vietnam, India sent the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha from Sarnath to Vietnam for the first time during 2 May – 2 June. The Holy Relics were accompanied by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs and Minister for Tourism and Culture, Government of Andhra Pradesh. The Sacred Relics received profound response across nine provinces in Vietnam, where they were enshrined, with over 14 million devotees paying obeisance, including the President of Vietnam.



India sent the Holy Relics of Lord Buddha from Sarnath to Vietnam for the first time, accompanied by Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minority Affairs and Minister for Tourism and Culture, Government of Andhra Pradesh, India, on the request of the Government of Vietnam, May 2025

Prime Minister met the Prime Minister of Vietnam on 7 July on the sidelines of the 17th BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, and on 31 August on the sidelines of the 25th SCO Summit in Tianjin, China. EAM met Foreign Minister of Vietnam Le Hoai Trung on 27 October on the sidelines of 22nd ASEAN-India Summit and 20th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Minister of State for Petroleum and Natural Gas and Tourism, attended the Commemoration Ceremony of the 80th anniversary of Vietnam's National Day in Hanoi on 1-2 September. MoS (KVS) visited Hanoi on 24-27 February, representing India at the second ASEAN Future Forum. Deputy NSA participated in the ceremony commemorating the 80th anniversary of the People's Public Security Forces of Vietnam in Hanoi on 17 August.



MoS (KVS) held bilateral discussions with the then Foreign Minister of Vietnam Bui Thanh Son in Hanoi, February 2025

India-Vietnam 13th Political Consultation and 10th Strategic Dialogue were held in New Delhi on 25 June, while the fourth India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting on Atomic Energy Cooperation was held from 12 to 13 May.

In the field of defence, the fourth Army-to-Army Staff Talks and the seventh Navy-to-Navy Staff Talks were held on 22-24 April and 13-15 October, respectively. The sixth High Level Meeting between the Indian Coast Guard and Vietnam Coast Guard was conducted on 20-21 August. INS Sujata and ICGS Veera made a Port Call at Cam Ranh Bay, Vietnam on 20 February. INS Darshak made port call at Ho Chi Minh City from 28-30 May and conducted joint hydrographic survey from 31 May to 2 June. Three Indian Naval ships- INS Delhi, INS Kiltan, and INS Shakti, made a port call at Da Nang, Vietnam from 24 to 27 July. A Vietnamese delegation, led by the Deputy Chief of the General Staff of Vietnam People's Army, attended the UN Troop Contributing Countries' (UNTCC) Chiefs Conclave 2025, hosted by India on 13-16 October.

Furthermore, the 15th India-Vietnam Defence Policy Dialogue, co-chaired by Secretary (Defence) and Deputy Minister of National Defence of Vietnam Hoang Xuan Chien, was held in Hanoi on 10 November. On this occasion, both sides signed a MoA on Mutual Submarine Search, Rescue, Support and Cooperation and a Letter of Intent on Strengthening Defence Industry Cooperation. Later in the month, the sixth India-Vietnam bilateral army exercise– Exercise VINBAX– focusing on UN Peacekeeping was held in Hanoi on 11-27 November.

During the year, 78 Vietnamese students joined undergraduate, postgraduate and doctorate programmes in India under the ICCR scholarship scheme. Over 50 Vietnamese officials and specialists attended short-term training courses in India under ITEC and other programmes.

CHAPTER

4

East Asia

China

During the year 2025, exchanges between India and China at various levels intensified through mutual visits for bilateral mechanisms and meetings on the sidelines of multilateral fora.

Prime Minister visited China for the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit 2025, where he held a bilateral meeting with President Xi Jinping on 31 August in Tianjin. During the meeting, both leaders noted the progress and the momentum that had been maintained in the bilateral relations since their October 2024 meeting in Kazan, especially in the domain of people-to-people relations.

The run-up to the SCO Summit saw visits to China by National Security Advisor (NSA) in June, Raksha Mantri in June and EAM in July for meetings under the SCO framework and meetings with Chinese Ministerial counterparts on the sidelines. Foreign Secretary held meetings with Vice Foreign Minister Sun Weidong on two occasions in 2025, during his visit to Beijing (January), and subsequently during the latter's visit to New Delhi (June) respectively.



Prime Minister held a meeting with President of China Xi Jinping in Tianjin on the sidelines of the SCO Summit, August 2025.

In 2025, the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra resumed for Indian pilgrims, with yatris undertaking the pilgrimage through both the official routes of Nathu La and Lipulekh. Both sides also took additional practical steps including easing of travel between the two countries and resumption of direct flight connectivity.

As a result of the ongoing technical-level discussions between the civil aviation authorities of India and China, direct air services resumed in late October. The year also marked the 75th anniversary of India-China bilateral relations, for which various people-centric commemorative exchanges, such as think-tank dialogues and cultural activities were organized.

Talks between the two sides under the Special Representative (SR) Mechanism on the Boundary Question have continued, with NSA visiting Beijing for the 23rd round on 18 December 2024, and the subsequent visit of Politburo member and Foreign Minister Wang Yi to New Delhi for the 24th round on 19 August 2025. EAM also held talks with Foreign Minister Wang Yi during the latter's visit for the 24th SR Talks in August. Previously, EAM and Foreign Minister Wang Yi had met during EAM's visit to China in July, and on the sidelines of the BRICS meetings held in Johannesburg in February.



EAM held talks with Politburo member and Foreign Minister of China Wang Yi in New Delhi, August 2025.

In 2025, engagements over border-related matters continued through the 33rd and 34th rounds of the Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC). India also continues to engage with China on multilateral platforms including BRICS, SCO, G-20, and the UN.

As per the data available on Trade Intelligence & Analytics Portal, Department of Commerce, the total trade volume (sum of Import and Export) between India and China for the Financial year 2025-2026 till November 2025 stood at USD 96.46146 billion and a trade deficit of 75.05827 billion.

During the meeting in August between Prime Minister and President Xi Jinping, the two leaders underlined the need to proceed from a political and strategic direction to expand bilateral trade and investment ties and reduce trade deficit.

DPRK

Relations between India and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) remained on an even keel. India has been consistently supportive of efforts to bring about peace and stability on the Korean Peninsula through dialogue and diplomacy.

Japan

The year witnessed continued deepening of the India–Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership, marked by the Annual Summit in August and the first meeting between Prime Minister and the new Japanese Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi on 23 November. In addition, there were frequent high-level political engagements and expanding cooperation in critical areas including economic security, clean energy, technology, and people-to-people exchanges.

Prime Ministerial Engagements

Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with the Prime Minister of Japan Sanae Takaichi on the margins of G20 Summit, Johannesburg on 23 November. In this initial meeting between the two leaders, they acknowledged the steady progress made in bilateral ties during the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit and called for expeditious implementation of the outcomes agreed upon, and discussed collaborative opportunities between India and Japan in strategic sectors. Earlier, Prime Minister had congratulated Prime Minister Sanae Takaichi over a telephone call on 29 October, soon after her election.



Prime Minister met Prime Minister of Japan Sanae Takaichi on the sidelines of G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg, November 2025.

Earlier in the year, Prime Minister paid an official visit to Japan on 29–30 August for the 15th India–Japan Annual Summit with the then Prime Minister Shigeru Ishiba. The two leaders adopted the India–Japan Joint Vision for the Next Decade, outlining a ten-year strategic roadmap for cooperation across eight priority areas: economic partnership, economic security, mobility, ecological sustainability, technology and innovation, health, people-to-people and cultural exchanges, and state–prefecture cooperation.

Bilateral documents released during the Annual Summit, included the Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation, Action Plan for India–Japan Human Resource Exchange (envisaging two-way exchange of 500,000 people, including 50,000 skilled and semi-skilled Indian workers to Japan over five years), Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) in the Field of Mineral Resources, MoC on India–Japan Digital Partnership 2.0, Implementing Arrangement between ISRO and JAXA for the Joint Lunar Polar Exploration Mission (Chandrayaan-5/LUPEX), Joint Declaration of Intent on Clean Hydrogen and Ammonia, MoC on the Joint Crediting Mechanism, and MoCs on Environmental Cooperation, Cultural Exchange, and Decentralized Wastewater Management, as well as a Joint Statement of Intent between India's Ministry of Science and Technology and Japan's MEXT.

Other notable outcomes of the Summit included the announcement of a private investment target of approximately USD 68 billion in India over the next decade, the launch of the India–Japan Economic Security Initiative and an accompanying Fact Sheet on Economic Security Cooperation, the India–Japan AI Initiative to foster collaboration in Large Language Models and trustworthy AI, the Next-Generation Mobility Partnership, the India–Japan SME Forum, and the Sustainable Biofuel Initiative. Both sides also agreed to intensify state–prefecture linkages, including through new business forums in the Kansai and Kyushu regions.

Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister Ishiba met earlier in the year on the sidelines of the G7 Leaders' Summit in Kananaskis, Canada held on 17–18 June, where they discussed bilateral cooperation and regional developments. Following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22 April, the then Prime Minister Ishiba telephoned Prime Minister on 24 April to convey condolences on Pahalgam terrorist attack and solidarity with India in combating terrorism.



Prime Minister met the then Prime Minister of Japan Shigeru Ishiba at the 15th India-Japan Annual Summit in Tokyo, August 2025.

Ministerial and Senior-Level Engagements

EAM met the newly appointed Foreign Minister of Japan Toshimitsu Motegi on 27 October on the margins of ASEAN Summit in Malaysia.

Earlier, EAM met the then Foreign Minister of Japan Takeshi Iwaya on 19 January on the sidelines of the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Washington, D.C., where they jointly announced 2025–26 as the India–Japan Year of Science, Technology and Innovation Exchanges. They met again on 1 July in Washington, D.C. for another round of discussions during the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting.

Speaker of Japan's House of Representatives Fukushiro Nukaga visited India on 1-5 May, during which he held meetings with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha and the EAM. As part of the visit, he also travelled to Assam, where he met the Chief Minister and visited the Tata Semiconductor Project in Jagiroad.

The India–Japan Defence Ministerial Meeting was held in New Delhi on 5 May, when Japan's Defence Minister Gen Nakatani visited India and met Rakshamantri. The two Defence Ministers reaffirmed cooperation under the new Joint Declaration on Security Cooperation and emphasized joint defence technology and capacity-building initiatives.

An all-party parliamentary delegation led by a senior Member of Parliament visited Japan on 22-24 May in the aftermath of Operation Sindoor, where they interacted with senior Japanese political leaders, including Speaker of the House of Representatives Fukushiro Nukaga, the then Foreign Minister of Japan Takeshi Iwaya, former Prime Minster Yoshihide Suga, and other key stakeholders. During these interactions, the delegation underscored India's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism.



EAM met the then Foreign Minister of Japan Takeshi Iwaya in Washington, D.C. on the sidelines of the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting, January 2025.



EAM met the Foreign Minister of Japan Toshimitsu Motegi on the sidelines of East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur, October 2025.

Defence and Security Cooperation

Defence and security ties remained a key pillar of the partnership. Chief of the Naval Staff paid an official visit to Japan on 29 July-3 August, aimed at strengthening bilateral Defence Cooperation, Maritime Partnership and reaffirming India's commitment to a free and Open Indo-Pacific.

The sixth edition of the bilateral Army exercise 'DHARMA GUARDIAN-25' was conducted at the Fuji Manoeuvre Training Area, Japan, on 24 February- 9 March, focusing on counter-terrorism operations and interoperability between the Indian Army and Japan Ground Self-Defence Force. The Indian Air Force supported troop transportation using C-17 aircraft. The two sides continued to strengthen defence cooperation through regular exchanges, consultations, and defence technology collaboration. Indian Naval Ship (INS) Sahyadri participated in the sea phase of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JAIMEX-25) conducted between 16-18 October, which was followed by a port call at Yokosuka for the Harbour Phase.

Earlier, in January, Indian Coast Guard Ship ICGS Shaunak visited Yokohama on a goodwill visit and held a bilateral exercise with Japan Coast Guard (JCG). A JCG ship 'Itsukushima' made a reciprocal goodwill visit to Chennai as a part of the JCG's Global Ocean Voyage Training in July.

Economic and Industrial Cooperation

Economic engagement remained a major pillar of bilateral relations. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas visited Japan on 16-19 November and met with Japan's State Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry Toshiro Ino. Productive discussions were held with leading Japanese industry representatives on opportunities for collaboration across the energy value chain. The fourth India–Japan Energy Dialogue was held virtually on 25 August, co-chaired by the Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs and the Minister of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) of Japan. Under the framework of the Japan–India Clean Energy Partnership (JICEP), both sides reaffirmed their commitment to energy security and inclusive growth, welcomed progress in areas such as energy efficiency, clean hydrogen, ammonia, and renewable energy, and agreed to expand cooperation in carbon capture, utilization and storage (CCUS), green chemicals, biofuels, and advanced technologies in the energy sector.

The third India–Japan Steel Dialogue was held in New Delhi on 4 February to deepen cooperation in advanced steelmaking technologies, decarbonization, and workplace safety. The third India–Japan Joint Working Group on Textiles met in Tokyo in June, followed by the visit of Minister of Textiles to Tokyo on 14–17 July, to expand cooperation in apparel manufacturing, trade, and skill development.

The seventh India–Japan Industrial Competitiveness Partnership (IJICP) meeting was held in Tokyo on 17 September. Both sides reviewed progress across key sectors and agreed to enhance industrial cooperation, human resource development, and investment promotion toward the USD 68 billion target.

The eighth India-Japan Joint Working Group meeting on ICT led by Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and Vice Minister for International Affairs, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, Japan was held on 10 October in New Delhi to take forward strategic ICT collaboration, and to drive digital innovation through discussions involving the government as well as the private sector. India also participated in the Tokyo Economic Security Forum organized by Japan's Ministry for Economy, Trade and Industry on 15 December at the Joint Secretary-level. During the visit of Joint Secretary (East Asia) for the aforementioned forum as well as the visit of Joint Secretary (Cyber Diplomacy) on 16-17 December, discussions were held on AI, economic security and other outcomes of the 15th Annual Summit.

Science, Technology, and Innovation

The year 2025–26 was designated the India–Japan Year of Science, Technology and Innovation Exchanges, reinforcing scientific and research collaboration.

The 11th Joint Committee Meeting on Science and Technology Cooperation was held in June, reviewing ongoing research partnerships and identifying new areas for joint innovation. The Joint Institute of Excellence established by IIT Bombay and Tohoku University in April further strengthened academic collaboration in advanced technologies.

The fourth Meeting of the India–Japan Joint Working Group on Civil Nuclear Cooperation was held in India on 7 July.

The fourth India-Japan University Forum was held at IIT Hyderabad in November for enhancing exchange of talent in science and technology domain.

State-Prefecture Engagements

The year witnessed Chief Ministerial visits to Japan from Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Punjab, which further strengthened sub-national collaborations and promoted partnerships in investment, tourism, and human resource development. Governors of Yamanashi, Ibaraki, Shizuoka, Toyama, Kagawa and Ehime Prefectures visited India in 2024–2025 and signed cooperation MoUs with Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, and Tamil Nadu, reflecting growing momentum in state–prefecture linkages.

Cultural and People-to-People Exchanges

Cultural and tourism exchanges remained a vibrant component of bilateral ties. The India–Japan Year of Tourism and Cultural Exchanges 2025 was celebrated with a series of events highlighting the shared heritage and contemporary connections between the two nations. Further, the Action Plan for India–Japan Human Resource Exchange, released during the 2025 Summit, aims to facilitate the movement of 50,000 skilled Indian professionals to Japan over the next five years, strengthening people-to-people and economic linkages. The MoC on Cultural Exchanges was also renewed in August to further deepen collaboration in arts, heritage, and youth exchanges.

The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA) and the Delhi Policy Group (DPG) co-hosted the eighth Japan-India Indo-Pacific Forum (11th Japan-India Track 1.5 Dialogue) on 5 November in Tokyo. EAM and State Minister for Foreign Affairs of Japan Ayano Kunimitsu delivered keynote addresses at the dialogue.

Expo 2025 Osaka–Kansai

Expo 2025 Osaka–Kansai concluded successfully in September under the theme 'Designing Future Society for Our Lives.' The India Pavilion 'Bharat' was among the top five most visited pavilions. The Pavillion was awarded the Bronze Medal in the category of External Design for Module Pavilions (Type B+X) at the Expo 2025 Official Participant Awards, organized

by the Bureau International des Expositions (BIE). The Pavilion served as a major platform to promote India's innovation, heritage, and investment opportunities.

International Day of Yoga and Independence Day was celebrated at the Osaka Expo in June and August respectively.

Mongolia

India and Mongolia continued to deepen their strategic partnership. The period witnessed enhanced bilateral relations with multifaceted engagement extending to new areas of partnership. India continued to support Mongolia's capacity building initiatives as an important 'third neighbour' and 'spiritual sibling'.

Major Developments in India-Mongolia bilateral relations

During the year, the highlight of the bilateral relations was the State Visit of President of Mongolia Khurelsukh Ukhnaa to India on 13-16 October. The State Visit coincided with the 70th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Mongolia and the 10th anniversary of Strategic Partnership. A total of 10 MoUs/Agreements were signed and exchanged during the visit. Prime Minister announced 70 additional seats for Mongolia under the ITEC programme. Mongolia formally joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), while reiterating support to India for the permanent seat in UNSC.



Prime Minister welcomed President of Mongolia Khurelsukh Ukhnaa on his State Visit in New Delhi, October 2025.

At the ministerial level, EAM met and held discussions with Foreign Minister of Mongolia B. Battsetseg during the Munich Security Conference on 15 February.

Other engagements during the year included a visit by the State Secretary and Head of the Strategic Planning Division from the Ministry of Energy of Mongolia for the India Energy Week 2025 held on 11–14 February. This was followed by the participation of State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mongolia Lhanaajav Munkhtushig in the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi on 17–18 March. Foreign Office Consultations were subsequently held on 19 March in New Delhi.

A high-level composite delegation from various Ministries of India, led by the Special Secretary & Financial Adviser (SS &FA) of the Ministry of External Affairs, visited Mongolia on 11–16 May to review the progress of the Oil Refinery Project. Thereafter, the fourth Joint Working Group Meeting between the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) of India and the Nuclear Energy Commission (NEC) of Mongolia was held in virtual mode on 9 June.

Later in the year, Secretary (East) visited Mongolia on 21–24 September and held broad discussions with the State Secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In addition, dialogues were held with the Ministers of Education, Industry & Mineral Resources, and the Secretary of the National Security Council of Mongolia.

Defence cooperation included DG-level talks at the 13th Joint Working Group (JWG) on Defence Cooperation held in New Delhi in February. A contingent of the Indian Army participated in the 'Nomadic Elephant 2025' bilateral exercises on 31 May-14 June held in Ulaanbaatar. Defence Secretary participated in the opening event of 'Khaan Quest 2025', a multilateral peacekeeping exercise in Mongolia with a 40-member Indian Army contingent.

Development Partnership

On the development cooperation projects, the Oil Refinery Project with a total cost, under LoC, standing at USD 1.7 billion progressed well. The construction of 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Centre of Excellence for

Information Technology, Communication and Outsourcing' (ABVCEITO), under a Line of Credit from EXIM Bank and the India-Mongolia Friendship Secondary School (IMFSS) under the Grant in Aid from India is near completion and the projects are expected to be completed in 2026.

Cultural Cooperation

During the year, cultural engagement between India and Mongolia remained anchored in shared civilizational and Buddhist heritage. It was further strengthened through concrete initiatives including the distribution of 40 sets of the Holy Mongolian Kanjur (108 volumes) to Monasteries/organisations in Mongolia and joint inauguration of the 'Grant-in-Aid Project for Digitization of One Million Buddhist Manuscripts' at Gandan Monastery to preserve and digitize important Buddhist manuscripts.

Republic of Korea

The Special Strategic Partnership between India and the Republic of Korea (RoK) continued to deepen in 2025, which also marked the '10th Year of the Special Strategic Partnership.' There was early contact with the new administration of the RoK which assumed power in June.

Prime Minister met the new President of RoK Lee Jae Myung twice in 2025, on the sidelines of the G7 Summit held in Kananaskis, Canada in June as well as the G20 Summit held in Johannesburg on 22 November. The leaders reaffirmed their commitment to deepen the India–RoK Special Strategic Partnership during the Johannesburg summit and expand cooperation across trade, investment and advanced technologies.

A delegation of Special Envoys of President Lee Jae Myung led by former Prime Minister Kim Boo-kyum visited India in July and met the Prime Minister, EAM, and Speaker of the Lok Sabha.



Prime Minister met the President of Republic of Korea Lee Jae Myung on the sidelines of the G7 Summit held in Canada, June 2025.

At the Ministerial level, EAM held several meetings with RoK Foreign Minister Cho Hyun. EAM met Foreign Minister Hyun during his visit to New Delhi in August and again in Kuala Lumpur in October on the sidelines of the India–ASEAN Summit. He also held a bilateral meeting with the then Foreign Minister Cho Tae Yeol on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers Meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa in February.

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas led an inter-ministerial delegation to RoK in November to discuss possibilities of collaboration with RoK companies in the shipbuilding sector.



EAM met with the Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea Cho Hyun in New Delhi in August, 2025.

An All-Party Parliamentary Delegation visited the RoK on 25-26 May for the outreach with countries on the significance of Operation Sindoor. Delegations led by the Chief Ministers of Assam and Chhattisgarh also visited RoK in January and August, respectively.

A high-level delegation from Andhra Pradesh led by Minister of Municipal Administration & Urban Development and Minister of Infrastructure & Investment visited the RoK on 29-30 September to apprise the local stakeholders about business and investment opportunities in Andhra Pradesh.

A delegation led by the Chief Minister of Punjab visited the RoK during 6-10 December to promote investment in Punjab.

The Korea–India Strategic Symposium, co-hosted by the Embassy of India in Seoul and the Institute for Future Strategy at Seoul National University was held in Seoul on 13 November. The 24th India-Korea Strategic Dialogue was held on 17-19 December in Seoul, convened by the Ananta Centre in partnership with MEA, the Korea Foundation, and the Seoul Forum for International Affairs.

Defence Cooperation

The inaugural India-RoK Navy bilateral exercise was conducted in Korea on 13-16 October, with INS Sahyadri participating from the Indian side. An MoU was signed between the two Coast Guards on 'Maritime Search & Rescue Cooperation'.

A delegation from Korea Coast Guard participated in the 10th NATPOLREX Exercise conducted by the Indian Coast Guard in October. A four-member contingent from 60 Parachute Field Hospital visited the RoK in November on the 75th Anniversary of the Korean War.

Cultural Cooperation

MoS (Information & Broadcasting) led the first ever ministerial delegation from India to the Busan International Film Festival (BIFF) and the Asian Contents & Film Market (ACFM) in September in Busan.

Member of the Culture, Sports and Tourism Committee of the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea Jaewon Kim visited New Delhi and Goa in November and participated in the 56th International Film Festival of India held in Goa.

CHAPTER

5

Eurasia and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation

Armenia

India–Armenia relations witnessed significant consolidation in this year, marked by sustained high-level political dialogue, deepening defence and strategic cooperation, and expanding economic engagement. Prime Minister interacted briefly with the Prime Minister of Armenia Nikol Pashinyan on the sidelines of the Global AI Action Summit in Paris in February and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin in August.

The establishment of a Defence Wing at the Indian Embassy in Yerevan on 2 January symbolised growing defence engagement. Defence Minister of Armenia Suren Papikyan led a delegation to India for Aero India and participated in the BRIDGE Defence Ministers' Conclave.



Minister of Defence of Armenia Suren Papikyan met Raksha Mantri on the sidelines of Aero India held in Bengaluru, February 2025

Frequent exchanges between EAM and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Aarat Mirzoyan, including his bilateral visit to India during 9–11 March, underscored the expanding scope of the partnership. EAM also met him at the Raisina Mediterranean Conference held in Marseille, France in June and coordinated closely during the evacuation of Indian nationals from Iran via Armenia during the Israel-Iran conflict under Operation Sindhu.



Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia Aarat Mirzoyan met the EAM during his bilateral visit to New Delhi, March 2025

The Secretary of the Security Council of Armenia (NSA) Armen Grigoryan, visited India on 13 May and met with the National Security Advisor (NSA). They also had a telephonic conversation on 22 September.

Trilateral cooperation gained momentum with the third India–Iran–Armenia consultations held in Tehran in September, focusing on regional connectivity and energy corridors. The 11th Round of Foreign Office Consultations was held in Yerevan on 7 November, co-chaired by Secretary (West) and Deputy Foreign Minister of Armenia Mnatsakan Safaryan. During the Consultations, an Agreement between the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Ministry of Health of Armenia on cooperation in the field of Public Health and Medical Science was signed by the First Deputy Minister of Health of Armenia Lena Nanushyan and the Ambassador of India to Armenia. Secretary (West) also called on the Foreign Minister of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan.

A National Defence College (NDC) delegation visited Armenia in June. An Armenian delegation led by Deputy Chief of Armenian Armed Forces Major General Temur Shahnazaryan visited India to attend the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries Chiefs' Conclave on 14-16 October. During the visit, Maj Gen Shahnazaryan met Vice Chief of the Army Staff. The India-Armenia Defence Staff Talks (the first Joint Working Group on Defence Cooperation) were held in Hyderabad on 23-24 October. A Defence Industry Seminar, CAMT-India 2025 (Cooperation Armenia Military Technology) Seminar, was organised by the Military Industrial Committee (MIC) of the Ministry of High-Tech Industry (MHTI) of the Republic of Armenia, in coordination with the Indian Embassy's Defence Wing at Yerevan, on 4-6 November. Joint Secretary (Defence Industries Promotion) from the Ministry of Defence led the Indian delegation, which included 20 Indian defence companies. The delegation aimed to explore opportunities and forge partnerships in co-development, joint ventures, collaborative R&D and co-investment. Joint Secretary (Defence Industries Promotion) also called on Armenian Deputy Minister of Defence Karen Brutyan and First Deputy Minister of High-Tech Industry Gevorg Mantashyan on 6 November. Defence cooperation also expanded following the Chief of Defence Staff's visit in November.

Economic relations expanded with focused sectoral collaboration. The Armenian Minister of Economy Gevorg Papoyan visited India to attend the 30th edition of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh on 14-15 November. He met the Minister of Commerce & Industry on the sidelines of the Summit on 14 November. He also met the Minister of Civil Aviation on 17 November.

The CDSCO–CDMTE MoU was complemented by a Business Forum in March, attended by over 200 pharma companies from both countries, promoting pharmaceutical and medical technology trade. The India–Armenia Business Networking Event in May and the Virtual Meeting on Tourism in October furthered B2B engagement and tourism promotion.

An India Corner and fully equipped Digital Transformation Lab (financed under 'Aid to Eurasia') was inaugurated by Ambassador to Armenia at the Armenian State University of Economics Gyumri Branch (ASUE-GB) on 17 November.



An India Corner and fully equipped Digital Transformation Lab was inaugurated at the Armenian State University of Economics Gyumri Branch (ASUE-GB) by Ambassador of India to Armenia, November 2025

The Chairman of the State Revenue Committee of Armenia Eduard Hakobyan visited New Delhi to co-chair the ninth High-Level Meeting of the Asia Initiative held within the Framework of the 18th Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) on 1-2 December.

Member of the Armenian National Assembly Zaruhi Batoyan participated in the 'Purple Fest', an international festival organised by the Central Government, State Government of Goa and the UN on 9-12 October in Goa.

Armenia's decision to join the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) and ratify the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) Charter in reflects growing cooperation in sustainable development and multilateral initiatives led by India.

Azerbaijan

MoS (Communications and Rural Development) led a high-level delegation to Azerbaijan on 16-19 November for the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25), held in Baku on 17-28 November.



MOS (Communication & Rural Development) attended the World Telecommunication Development Conference (WTDC-25) organised by ITU in Azerbaijan, November 2025.

A two-member Indian Parliamentary delegation participated in the 15th Plenary Session of the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), held in Baku on 18-20 February. As Chair of the Conference on Interaction and Confidence-Building Measures in Asia (CICA), Azerbaijan appointed the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA), a member of the CICA Think Tank Forum (TTF), as the Chair of the CICA TTF for 2026-2027.

Belarus

India-Belarus relations in this year were marked by sustained high-level engagements across political, defence, parliamentary, and diplomatic channels. Prime Minister met President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko on 31 August during the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Summit in Tianjin, China. Defence cooperation was reinforced when Raksha Mantri met Defence Minister of Belarus Lieutenant General Viktor Khrenin on the sidelines of the SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Tianjin on 26 June.



Prime Minister met President of Belarus Alexander Lukashenko during the SCO Summit in Tianjin, China, August 2025

Parliamentary engagement continued through meetings between delegations at the 151st Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Geneva in October. MoS (KVS) met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus Maxim Ryzhenkov during the 19th NAM Mid-term Ministerial meeting in Kampala in October. At the institutional level, the eighth round of India-Belarus Foreign Office Consultations was held in Minsk during the Secretary (West)'s visit in October. Discussions covered the full spectrum of bilateral relations, regional and global issues, and opportunities to enhance cooperation. Secretary (West) also called on Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belarus Maxim Ryzhenkov and addressed the third Minsk International Conference on Eurasian Security, presenting India's perspectives on pressing regional and global challenges. This year, India-Belarus relations maintained a steady momentum.

Georgia

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia Maka Botchorishvili participated in the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi on 18 March and met with the EAM on the sidelines of the event. Minister of Education, Science and Youth of Georgia Alexander Tsuladze led an official delegation to India on 26 March and met MoS (Education) to discuss further strengthening institutional and academic cooperation, particularly in the context of a large number of Indian students in Georgian higher educational institutions.

A high-level three-member delegation led by the Election Commissioner of India visited Georgia on 4-7 June to attend the 12th Annual Meeting of Election Management Bodies on 'Technology Utilisation Experience and Impact of Disinformation on Electoral Credibility' in Kakheti, Georgia. Nine Georgian officials travelled to India this year under the ITEC programme, and one Georgian Diplomat attended the third Global South Young Diplomats Forum (GSYDF) conducted by S ushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) on 8-19 September.

A high-level Parliamentary delegation led by Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia Shalva Papuashvili

visited India on 1-5 December. During the visit, the delegation met with the Hon'ble Vice President and the Speaker of the Lok Sabha. The Speaker of the Lok Sabha announced the formation of an India-Georgia Parliamentary Friendship Group.



Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia Shalva Papuashvili met Hon'ble Vice President and Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, December 2025.



Chairman of the Parliament of Georgia Shalva Papuashvili met the Speaker of the Lok Sabha, December 2025.

The eighth India – Georgia Foreign Office Consultation was held in Tbilisi on 13 December. The Indian side was led by Secretary (West) while the Georgian side was led by Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Alexander Khvtisiashvili. They reviewed the entire range of bilateral issues and discussed ways to further strengthen ties between India and Georgia, along with exchanging views on regional and global issues of mutual interest.

Kazakhstan

India-Kazakhstan bilateral relations continued to strengthen during the year. Prime Minister exchanged views with President of Kazakhstan Kassyn Jomart Tokayev on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin in August.



Prime Minister exchanged views with President of Kazakhstan Kassyn Jomart Tokayev on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin, August 2025.

At the ministerial level, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kazakhstan Murat Nurtleu participated in the fourth India-Central Asia Ministerial Dialogue, held in New Delhi in June, where he met the Prime Minister and EAM during a joint call by Central Asian Foreign Ministers. Vice Minister of Ecology and Natural Resources Nurken Sharbiyev held discussions with India's Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change on the sidelines of the IBCA Assembly meeting in New Delhi in June.



EAM met Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan Murat Nurtleu, in New Delhi, June 2025

Defence cooperation was further strengthened through the visit of First Deputy Minister of Defence and Chief of General Staff Lieutenant General Sultan Kamaletdinov in August, who met the MoS (Defence) and the Indian military leadership. The seventh meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Defence and Military Technical Cooperation was held in Astana in April. A 22-member Higher Command Course delegation from Ministry of Defence visited Kazakhstan in November. The visit was an important marker in the defence cooperation between India and Kazakhstan.

Parliamentary and electoral cooperation remained active, with the Speaker of the Lok Sabha engaging with the Chairman of the Mazhilis of the Parliament of Kazakhstan Yerlan Koshanov during the 150th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in April. A Parliamentary delegation led by the Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha interacted with the Senate in Almaty in April. The Chief Election Commissioner of Kazakhstan Nurlan Abdirov participated in the international conference 'Global Election Year 2024: Reiteration of Democratic Spaces; Takeaways for EMBs' in New Delhi in January. Economic cooperation was sustained through the eighth meeting of the Joint Working Group on Trade and Economic Cooperation, held virtually in January.

Kyrgyz Republic

During the year, the partnership between India and the Kyrgyz Republic continued to strengthen through sustained engagement across political, commercial, defence, security, and cultural domains.

On the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin on 31 August, Prime Minister interacted with President of Kyrgy Republic Sadyr Zhaparov. Earlier, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyz Republic Zheenbek Kulubaev visited India to attend the fourth India-Central Asia Foreign Ministers' Dialogue in New Delhi on 5-6 June. During the visit, he held bilateral meetings with the Finance Minister and EAM. During these meetings, they signed the Program of Cooperation between the Foreign Ministries for 2025-2027 and the Protocol of Exchange of Instrument of Ratification of the Bilateral Investment Treaty. He, along with other Central Asian Foreign Ministers, called on the Prime Minister and also participated in the India-Central Asia Business Forum.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyz Republic Zheenbek Kulubaev in New Delhi, June 2025

Defence and security cooperation was further reinforced through multiple high-level visits and exercises. NSA participated in the third meeting of India-Central Asia Secretaries of Security Councils/ NSAs held in Bishkek on 16 October, where he, along with the Central Asian NSAs, called on President of Kyrgyz Republic Sadyr Zhaparov. Deputy NSA attended the Council of the Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of SCO (RATS-SCO) meeting in Cholpon-Ata on 10 September, while the Director General of the Border Security Force participated in the 11th meeting of Heads of Border Security Services under RATS-SCO in Bishkek on 10 July.

MoS (KVS) visited the Kyrgyz Republic on 1-7 June to participate in the ninth Steering Committee Meeting of the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection Program. During his visit, he held bilateral meetings with Deputy Foreign Minister Temirbek Erkinov and Minister of Natural Resources, Ecology and Technical Supervision Meder Mashiev, focusing on environmental cooperation.

Youth and cultural exchanges remained active during the year. A 19-member Kyrgyz youth delegation visited India on 22–28 March as part of the 100-member Central Asia Youth Forum.

Bilateral defence engagements included participation in key events and military exercises. First Deputy Defence Minister Major General Terdikbaev Erlis Dzhekshenovich attended Aero India 2025 on 10–12 February, holding bilateral meetings with MoS (Defence), Chief of Air Staff, and Chairman DRDO. The Acting Chief of General Staff of the Kyrgyz Armed Forces participated in the Army Chiefs' Conclave on United Nations Troop Contributing Countries in New Delhi on 13–16 October. The 12th edition of the Khanjar bilateral military exercises was conducted in the Kyrgyz Republic from 10 to 23 March, and the third meeting of the Joint Working Group on Defence Cooperation between India and Kyrgyzstan was held in Bishkek on 8-9 April.

Overall, the year witnessed the consolidation of India-Kyrgyz Republic bilateral relations with deepening cooperation across political dialogue, defence and security, youth engagement, and environmental initiatives.

Russia

This year marked the 25th anniversary of the Declaration on Strategic Partnership between India and Russia, which was established during President of Russia Vladimir Putin's first State Visit to India in October 2000. Over the past quarter-century,

the India-Russia Special and Privileged Strategic Partnership has grown stronger, encompassing political, economic, defence, and people-to-people cooperation. In this year, the partnership continued to deepen through frequent high-level engagements and sustained collaboration across multiple sectors.

Prime Minister met President of Russia Vladimir Putin on 1 September on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin, China, where they discussed ways to strengthen bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and global issues of mutual interest. The two leaders also maintained regular communication, holding five telephone conversations during the year on 5 May, 8 August, 18 August, 17 September, and 7 October.

President of Russia Vladimir Putin paid a State Visit to India for the 23rd India- Russia Annual Summit on 4-5 December. During the visit, Agreements/MoUs were signed in the fields of migration and mobility, health and food safety, maritime cooperation and polar waters, fertilisers, customs and commerce, and academic and media collaboration. Both sides positively assessed the multifaceted, mutually beneficial India-Russia relations that span all areas of cooperation.



President of Russia Vladimir Putin, during his state visit to India, was received by the Prime Minister at the airport in New Delhi, December 2025



Prime Minister met President of Russia Vladimir Putin on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin, China, September 2025

Parliamentary exchanges added further momentum to the bilateral relationship. Chairman of the State Duma Vyacheslav Volodin, visited India from 2 to 4 February and met Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, Hon'ble Vice President, and Lok Sabha Speaker. Following the Pahalgam terror attack and India's Operation Sindoor, an all-party delegation, comprising five Members of Parliament, visited Russia from 22 to 24 May to express India's unified resolve and zero-tolerance approach toward terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

Deputy Prime Minister for Agricultural Affairs of Russia Dmitry Patrushev, visited New Delhi from 23 to 27 September to participate in World Food India, where he called on the Prime Minister and met with several key ministers.

Raksha Mantri met his Russian counterpart, Minister of Defense of Russia Andrey Belousov, on 26 June on the margins of the SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Qingdao, China. India-Russia defence cooperation is a solid pillar of the strategic partnership and is guided by the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Military & Military-Technical Cooperation (IRIGC-M&MTC mechanism), co-chaired by the Defence Ministers of both countries. The 22nd Session of the IRIGC-M&MTC was held on 4 December, on the eve of the 23rd Annual Summit, in New Delhi. MoS (Defence) represented India at the Victory Day celebrations in Moscow on 9 May, marking the 80th anniversary of victory in the Great Patriotic War. On 1 July, INS Tamal, a stealth multi-role frigate built in Russia, was commissioned in Kaliningrad. The two sides conducted the bilateral naval exercise INDRA from 28 March to 2 April, held in two phases. A 65-member Indian contingent also participated in the multilateral exercise Zapad 2025 in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia, from 10 to 16 September.

NSA visited Moscow on 7-8 August for the India-Russia NSA-level Strategic Dialogue, during which he called on President Putin and met key Russian officials, including Security Council Secretary Sergei Shoigu, aide to the President Nikolai Patrushev, and First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov.

On the diplomatic front, EAM and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov met six times this year (on 20 February in Johannesburg, on 7 July in Rio de Janeiro, on 15 July in Tianjin, on 21 August in Moscow, and on 27 September in New York on the sidelines of the UNGA).



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov on the sidelines of the 80th United Nations General Assembly in New York, USA, September 2025

During EAM's official visit to Russia from 19 to 21 August, he called on President of Russia Vladimir Putin, co-chaired the 26th session of the India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) with First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov, and held detailed discussions with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Russia Sergey Lavrov. EAM visited Moscow from 17 to 19 November for the 24th Council of Heads of Government meeting of the SCO. During the visit, he called on President Putin and held meetings with his IRIGC-TEC co-chair, First Deputy Prime Minister Denis Manturov, as well as Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov.

In October, MoS (PM) visited Russia and inaugurated the 'Best of India - Indian Apparel and Textile Fair' in Moscow, promoting trade and cultural ties between the two nations.



EAM met First Deputy Prime Minister of the Russian Federation Denis Manturov while co-chairing the 26th India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation (IRIGC-TEC) in Moscow, August 2025

The India-Russia Foreign Office Consultations were held in Moscow on 7 March, co-chaired by the Foreign Secretary and Russia's Deputy Foreign Minister.

In the case of economic and sectoral cooperation, bilateral trade reached USD 68.7 billion in this year, with India's exports totalling USD 4.9 billion and imports from Russia totalling USD 63.8 billion. In the energy sector, Minister of Energy of Russia Sergey Tsivilyov visited India in February and met the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas. A Russian delegation led by Deputy Minister of Energy Pavel Sorokin participated in the India Energy Week. In June, Minister of Railways, Electronics and Information Technology, and Information and Broadcasting, along with Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog, attended the 28th St. Petersburg International Economic Forum (SPIEF). Thus, the year witnessed sustained momentum in India-Russia relations.

Tajikistan

This year saw sustained, multifaceted engagement between India and Tajikistan, with both countries actively pursuing opportunities to strengthen their partnership across bilateral and multilateral frameworks, including the India-Central Asia Dialogue mechanism.

On 31 August, the Prime Minister met with President of Tajikistan Emomali Rahmon on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin, China, where the two leaders reviewed bilateral ties and discussed regional issues of mutual interest. On 26 June, Raksha Mantri met with Minister of Defence of Tajikistan Lt. Gen. Sobirzoda Emomali Abdurahim on the sidelines of the SCO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Qingdao, China, where both sides discussed regional security and defence collaboration.

Earlier in the year, the fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue and India-Central Asia Business Forum were held in New Delhi on 5-6 June. Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan Sirojiddin Muhriddin, led his country's delegation and held a bilateral meeting with EAM to discuss cooperation in connectivity, energy, and capacity building.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan Sirojiddin Muhriddin in New Delhi, June 2025

In the area of environmental cooperation, MoS (KVS) visited Tajikistan from 29 May to 1 June to attend the High-Level International Conference on Glacier Preservation. During his visit, he held bilateral meetings with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan Sirojiddin Muhriddin and the Chairman of the Committee for Environmental Protection to explore avenues for climate and ecological cooperation. Additionally, the second Joint Working Group on Renewable Energy between India and Tajikistan was held virtually in February, with the participation of Tajikistan's Deputy Minister of Energy, Sharifa Khudobakhsh.

Economic and commercial engagement also gathered momentum during the year. A high-level business delegation from Tajikistan participated in the India-Central Asia Business Forum in June, promoting trade, investment, and collaboration. Trade chambers and business representatives from both countries actively participated in business events and promotional activities organised in each other's markets, reflecting a growing interest in deepening economic linkages.

People-to-people and capacity-building exchanges continued to play a vital role in strengthening bilateral relations. A 20-member youth delegation from Tajikistan visited India in March to participate in the third India-Central Asia Youth Forum, alongside delegates from other Central Asian countries. A senior official from Tajikistan's Committee for Environmental Protection attended the ITEC Executive Course for Wildlife and Conservation Practitioners at Kaziranga National Park in February. Furthermore, two Tajik diplomats participated in training programmes at the SSIFS - one in the fifth Annual Disarmament and International Security Affairs Fellowship Programme (January) and another in the third Global South Young Diplomats Forum (September). Between January and September, 146 ITEC candidates and 25 ICCR scholars from Tajikistan attended various training and academic courses in India.

Overall, the year was marked by deepening engagement between India and Tajikistan across political, defence, economic, environmental, and educational domains.

Turkmenistan

India and Turkmenistan continued to strengthen their bilateral relations through regular high-level exchanges and dialogue mechanisms covering political, economic, and cultural cooperation. Prime Minister met the President of Turkmenistan Serdar Berdimuhamedov on the sidelines of the SCO Summit held in Tianjin, China on 31 August. During their meeting, both leaders reviewed the progress in

bilateral cooperation and discussed ways to enhance engagement across key sectors, including energy, connectivity, trade, and cultural exchange.

At the ministerial level, Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov visited India to participate in the fourth India-Central Asia Foreign Ministers' Meeting and Business Forum held on 5-6 June. On the sidelines of the India-Central Asia Dialogue, EAM held a bilateral meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov, during which the Ministers exchanged views on the current state of India-Turkmenistan relations and discussed opportunities for cooperation across the politico-diplomatic, economic, cultural, and humanitarian domains.



EAM met Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan Rashid Meredov, in New Delhi, June 2025

Deputy Minister of Trade and Foreign Economic Relations of Turkmenistan Kerimberdi Gurbanov participated in the 30th CII Partnership Summit held on 14–15 November in Visakhapatnam (Andhra Pradesh). Deputy Minister of Education Alexander Amanov represented Turkmenistan at the 20th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage held in New Delhi from 7-13 December.

Institutional consultations also continued during the year. The fourth round of the India-Turkmenistan Consular Dialogue was held in Ashgabat on 24 January. The meeting was co-chaired by the Joint Secretary (Consular Passport and Visa) and the Head of the Department of Consular Service of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Turkmenistan. Both sides discussed various issues related to visa facilitation and consular matters affecting nationals of the two countries.

Two representatives from the Mejlis of Turkmenistan attended a Parliamentary Internship Programme conducted by the Parliamentary Research and Training Institute for Democracies (PRIDE) under the Lok Sabha Secretariat in New Delhi from 10 November to 2 December. Three journalists from Turkmenistan visited India (New Delhi and Hyderabad) from 9-18 December as part of a familiarisation visit for Central Asian media editors and journalists, organised by the Ministry.

Overall, the year was marked by active and constructive engagement between India and Turkmenistan, reaffirming their commitment to deepening their partnership across political, economic, and people-to-people domains.

Ukraine

India and Ukraine continued to build on the steady trajectory of their comprehensive bilateral relationship.

On 11 August, Prime Minister and President of Ukraine Volodymyr Zelenskyy held a telephone conversation to discuss bilateral issues and the broader geopolitical situation. The two leaders had a second conversation on 30 August, where they reaffirmed their shared vision for peace and the importance of continued dialogue and cooperation.

In March, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Andriy Sybiha visited India to participate in the Raisina Dialogue. On the sidelines of the event, he met with EAM, and the two leaders discussed ways to enhance business engagement and broaden regional partnerships. Their discussions focused on strengthening mutually beneficial economic ties between India and Ukraine. During the visit, the two sides signed a Protocol on a Visa Waiver Agreement. They jointly inaugurated the new Consulate of Ukraine in Mumbai, marking a step toward facilitating greater people-to-people and commercial interactions.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Andrii Sybiha on the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi, March 2025

Bilateral trade between India and Ukraine witnessed positive growth during the year. To explore new areas of bilateral collaboration, the Joint Working Group on Agriculture held its first meeting in June aiming to explore joint initiatives in agri-technology, trade, and sustainable farming practices.

Uzbekistan

The year marked a period of vibrant and comprehensive engagement between India and Uzbekistan, encompassing high-level political dialogue, defence and security cooperation, trade and economic exchanges, cultural and educational collaboration, and people-to-people connectivity.

On the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin on 31 August Prime Minister interacted with President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev. On the diplomatic front, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Bakhtiyor Saidov participated in the fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue held in New Delhi on 6 June, alongside Foreign Ministers from other Central Asian countries. He also held a bilateral meeting with the EAM, during which discussions focused on expanding cooperation in trade, digital infrastructure, connectivity, pharmaceuticals, healthcare, and rare earths.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan Bakhtiyor Saidov in New Delhi, June 2025

The ninth meeting of the India-Uzbekistan Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism took place in Tashkent on 30 September, where both sides reviewed regional and global terrorist threats and agreed to enhance collaboration through information sharing, capacity building, and coordination in multilateral fora.

A Parliamentary delegation led by the Lok Sabha Speaker participated in the 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) held in Tashkent in April. During the visit, the Speaker addressed the IPU Governing Council and Assembly, called on President of Uzbekistan Shavkat Mirziyoyev, and met with Senate Chairperson Tanzila Narbayeva and Legislative

Chamber Speaker Nuriddin Ismoilov, reaffirming the strong parliamentary partnership between the two nations.

Defence cooperation between the two countries continued to strengthen during the year. The sixth edition of Exercise DUSTLIK, a counter-terrorism joint training initiative conducted on urban and mountainous terrain, was held in Aundh, Pune, on 15-18 April. Additionally, a specialised training on Combat Medical Care during Special Operations was organised for Uzbek Special Forces paramedics on 9-14 June.

Economic engagement also experienced substantial growth. A nine-company delegation from Uzbekistan took part in the India-Central Asia Business Forum held in New Delhi on 5 June. Uzbekistan has emerged as a popular destination for Indian students with around 10,000 students pursuing medical education at Uzbek universities. The first-ever India-Uzbekistan Consular Dialogue was held in Tashkent on 23 July, discussing visa facilitation, student welfare, medical tourism, and consular coordination. In the area of capacity building, over 100 Uzbek participants attended various Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) courses in India. Cultural and people-to-people exchanges featured prominently throughout the year. A seven-member delegation of Uzbek journalists and social media influencers visited Goa from 19 to 26 March to attend the Panjim Shigmo Festival. A 20-member Uzbek youth delegation also visited India from 22 to 28 March as part of the third India-Central Asia Youth Forum with Goa as the focus state.

Overall, this year was a vibrant year of engagement in the India-Uzbekistan relations.

Central Asia

India hosted the fourth Meeting of the India-Central Asia Dialogue in New Delhi on 5-6 June, where EAM engaged with counterparts form all the five central Asian countries- Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and Uzbekistan. The ministers discussed further strengthening cooperation in trade, connectivity, technology, and regional security. The fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue further strengthened the millennia-old cultural ties, underscored the importance India attaches to its extended neighbourhood, and underscored its commitment to forging a wider, more resilient partnership based on mutual trust and shared developmental goals.

On the sidelines of the fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue, the ministers also participated in a joint Business Council meeting, which was attended by industries and officials from all the Central Asian countries. The business council held discussions on strengthening B2B engagement across various aspects of trade and investment.



EAM with the Foreign Ministers from Central Asia (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan) at the fourth India-Central Asia Dialogue, June 2025

In continuation of India's commitment to capacity building for Central Asian countries in various domains, the Ministry, in partnership with the National Security Council Secretariat and the National Critical Information Infrastructure Protection Centre, organised a three-day Strategic Cyber Exercise for Central Asian countries from 12 to 14 November at New Delhi.

The Exercise focused on equipping technical teams with advanced skills to combat increasingly sophisticated transnational cyber threats targeting the region's critical infrastructure. It also successfully integrated intensive technical capacity building with skills for high-level strategic policy decision-making and deliberations on future areas of collaboration.

Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)

India's priorities in SCO are shaped by Prime Minister's vision of a 'SECURE' SCO. SECURE stands for Security, Economic development, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, and Environmental protection. India remained actively engaged in the SCO format, including through various mechanisms/initiatives within the SCO framework, and reiterated its mutual respect for sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity, equality, mutual benefit, and non-interference in internal affairs in the Forum. India also consistently advocated for greater emphasis on combating terrorism, enhancing economic ties, promoting Digital Public Infrastructure, digital inclusion, lifestyle for sustainable development and WTO reforms. India's advancement in economy, trade, energy, technology, startups, innovation, traditional medicine, etc., was also highlighted at various SCO meetings.

Summit of SCO Council of Heads of State

Prime Minister attended the 25th SCO Summit in Tianjin on 1 September held under the Chinese Chairmanship. In his country statement, Prime Minister outlined India's vision and policy towards SCO, built on three key pillars: S – Security, C – Connectivity, and O - Opportunity. On Security, he emphasised that security, peace and stability form the foundation of development and that terrorism, separatism and extremism remain challenges in this path. On the heinous terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Prime Minister thanked the friendly countries that stood by India and urged the unacceptability of double standards on terrorism. On Connectivity, he outlined initiatives such as Chabahar Port and the International North-South Transport Corridor (INSTC) to enhance India's connectivity with Afghanistan and Central Asia. Prime Minister also underlined the importance of upholding the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. On Opportunity, he spoke about opportunities for cooperation and reform, citing examples such as India's initiatives in start-ups and innovation, traditional medicine, empowerment, digital inclusion, and its shared Buddhist heritage.

Prime Minister also proposed creating a Civilizational Dialogue Forum within the SCO to strengthen people-to-people ties. On the occasion of the 80th anniversary of the United Nations, he urged a unanimous call for UN reform. Two significant Agreements were signed at the Summit- the Agreement to establish the Universal Centre for countering challenges and threats, and the Agreement to establish the Anti-Drug Centre, which reinforces one of the key objectives of the Organisation: to fight terrorism, separatism, extremism, and the drug menace.

In the main Summit declaration, the Member States strongly condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22 April. The leaders also expressed their deepest sympathies and condolences to the families of the dead and the wounded. They further stated that perpetrators, organisers and sponsors of such attacks must be brought to justice.



Prime Minister with the Leaders of the SCO member countries in Tianjin, China, September 2025

Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government (CHG)

EAM represented India in the 24th meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government, held in Moscow on 18 November, under the Chairpersonship of the Russian Federation. A Joint Communique of the SCO Heads of Government and several other decisions on trade, economy, and budgetary matters were adopted at the meeting. In his remarks, EAM noted his appreciation for India's initiative to create the SCO Civilisational Forum in fulfilment of the Prime Minister's guidance at the Tianjin Summit.

Member (MoS rank) Niti Aayog represented India in the Sustainable Development Forum chaired by Russia and held on the sidelines of the SCO Council of Heads of Government meeting on 17 November, in Moscow.

Meeting of the SCO Council of Foreign Ministers (CFM)

EAM attended the meeting in Tianjin on 14-15 July. The meeting reviewed ongoing cooperation within the SCO, discussed preparations for the SCO Council of Heads of State Summit, and exchanged ideas on regional and global developments of common concern.

Other high-level SCO Meetings

Raksha Mantri attended the SCO Defence Ministers' meeting on 25-26 June in Qingdao. NSA attended the meeting of the Secretaries of the Security Council of the SCO Member States on 24-25 June in Beijing. MoS (IC) Law and Justice attended the 12th session of Justice Ministers of the SCO Member States on 29 October, under the chairmanship of the Russian Federation.

Events hosted by India

MoS (KVS) inaugurated the second SCO Young Authors' Conference, which was successfully held by the National Book Trust on 25-26 September in New Delhi, under the aegis of the Ministry of Education and the MEA. Young authors from Russia and Uzbekistan attended the event. Other SCO member states were represented by officials from their resident Embassies in New Delhi. Adviser Minara Rakhnova represented the SCO Secretariat.

On 3-5 April, the fifth SCO Startup Forum was held in New Delhi, under the aegis of the Department of Industry Development and Domestic Trade of the Government of India (DPIIT) and Startup India. The SCO Startup Forum was held as part of the Startup Mahakumbh international event, which also included an international exhibition. The Indian side provided a separate pavilion for the SCO, where the products of start-ups from the Organisation's Member States were presented, ranging from digital technologies to bio-stimulators for crop production and food. The SCO Startup Forum has been held regularly since 2020, initiated by the Indian side. The main objectives of the Forum are to empower startup ecosystems in

the Organisation's member States, to provide startups with information, mentoring, and access to events to attract investors and corporate clients; to address social problems through innovative solutions; and to share knowledge on implementing institutional measures to support the startup ecosystem.

The SCO Forum successfully held its 20th meeting on 21-22 May in New Delhi under the Chairmanship of the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA). The SCO Study Centre of ICWA organised the meeting. More than 25 experts from the National Research Centres of the SCO Member States participated. Steered by the theme of SECURE SCO: Leading Towards a Transformed Region in the Spirit of 'The World is one Family', participants called for unity, shared responsibility, and collective action for a more inclusive, sustainable, and resilient future for all in SCO.

The Forum participants also held deliberations on the following themes: SCO's Expanding Role: Advancing Collective Vision for a Secure and Stable Region, Synergising the Comparative Advantages for Sustainable Development in the SCO Area, and SCO as a Platform for Cooperation in Culture. The Forum emphasised the underlying tenets of cooperation and unity of purpose, in the spirit of the ancient Indian maxim- 'The World is One Family'.

CHAPTER

6

GCC, West Asia & North Africa

Gulf Countries

India's relations with the Gulf countries continued to strengthen and deepen during 2025 through exchanges of high-level visits, growth in trade and investment and expansion of cooperation in areas including energy, security, defence, nuclear science, culture, education, technology, health and food security.

Gulf countries continued to be among India's top trading partners. With bilateral trade of more than USD 178 billion, an upswing in India's trade and commercial engagement with the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) was evident. Investment flows also remained robust, with cumulative FDI from GCC countries standing at about USD 28 billion. India's energy imports from the region also remained substantial.

The 9.8 million-strong Indian community continued to serve as a vital living bridge between India and the Gulf countries.

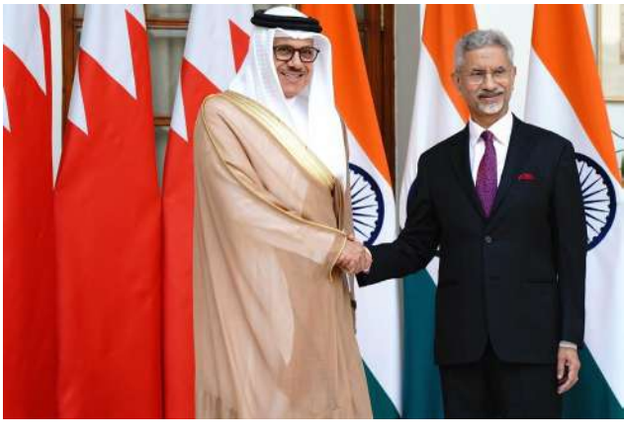
Bahrain

India and Bahrain share excellent bilateral relations characterised by cordial political, economic, cultural and people-to-people ties. The presence of more than 3,15,000 Indian nationals, comprising nearly one fifth of Bahrain's 1.6 million population, serve as an important anchor of the relationship. For India, Bahrain's geo-strategic location near the Strait of Hormuz, along with the presence of the US Fifth Fleet (NAVCENT) and the Headquarters of the US-led 47-member Combined Maritime Forces (CMF), makes it a key partner in ensuring maritime, energy and trade security. India joined CMF as a full member in 2023.

High Level exchanges

The fifth High Joint Commission was held in New Delhi on 3 November co-chaired by EAM and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani. Both sides reviewed ongoing cooperation and explored new avenues

for further strengthening bilateral engagement in the fields of defence, security, economy, trade, investment, customs, health, fintech, space, culture, and people-to-people ties. The two sides reiterated their condemnation of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations and reaffirmed their commitment to combating terrorism, including cross-border terrorism.



EAM along with Foreign Minister of Bahrain Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani co-chaired the Fifth India–Bahrain High Joint Commission Meeting in New Delhi, November 2025

Minister of Industry and Commerce of Bahrain Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro visited India from 21-22 February for the Global Investment Summit 'Invest Kerala Global Summit' held in Kochi.

An all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Bahrain on 24-25 May to convey India's position on the Pahalgam terror attack, the developments leading up to Operation Sindoor and the new approach to the fight against cross-border terrorism. The delegation called on Deputy Prime Minister of Bahrain Shaikh Khalid bin Abdulla Al Khalifa, met Chairman of the Shura Council Ali bin Saleh Al Saleh and First Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives Abdulnabi Salman Nasser. The delegation also met prominent think tanks of Bahrain, namely International Institute for Strategic Studies (IISS) and the King Hamad Global Center for Coexistence and Tolerance.

Minister of State for Law and Justice and for Parliamentary Affairs visited Bahrain on 28-30 May and held meetings with the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa, Yousif bin Abdulhussain Khalaf, Minister of Labour and Minister of Legal Affairs, and Minister of Justice and Islamic Affairs Nawaf bin Mohammed Al Maawda. He also met officials of the Bahrain Chamber for Dispute Resolution. The Minister visited the 200-year-old Shrinathji Temple along with Minister of Social Development Osama bin Saleh Al Alawi.

Minister of State for Law and Justice and for Parliamentary Affairs again visited Bahrain on 4-6 November for the King Hamad Lecture Ceremony on 5 November and Conference on the Future of International Commercial Courts on 6 November.

On 30 April, Undersecretary Ministry of Information Yousif Mohammed Albinkhalil along with Noora Mahmood Al Doy visited India to attend the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES), held in Mumbai on 1-4 May.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Trade and economic relations between India and Bahrain remained robust. In FY 2024-25, bilateral trade reached USD 1.64 billion, with the trade gap reducing to a marginal USD 48 million. India remained among Bahrain's top five trading partners. In FY 2025-26 (from 1.4.2025 to 30.11.2025) India's exports to Bahrain reached USD 553 million and imports from Bahrain reached USD 480 million. Two-way investments increased around 60 percent since 2019 and India remained the sixth-largest investor in Bahrain.

The international arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), the NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) and Bahrain's leading fintech and electronic financial transactions company BENEFIT, entered into a partnership to enable real-time cross-border remittances between India and Bahrain, in November. This will connect India's United Payments Interface (UPI) with Bahrain's Electronic Fund Transfer System (EFTS), specifically through the Fawri+ service, enabling users in both countries to send and receive money instantly and securely.

A 12-member business delegation led by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry – Confederation of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (FICCI-CMSME) visited Bahrain on 14–16 January and held meetings with Minister of Industry and Commerce of Bahrain Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI), the Economic Development Board of Bahrain (EDB) and the Bahrain Development of Small and Medium

Enterprises Society (BDSME). Discussions focused on enhancing trade ties.

The second Joint Working Group meeting on Healthcare Cooperation held on 21 January, was attended by the Additional Secretary of Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, and the then Secretary-General of the Supreme Council of Health Jalila bint Al Sayed Jawad Hassan. It reflected the commitment of both countries to work together in the field of health and pharmaceuticals, as agreed in the fourth High Joint Commission in December 2024.

A 13-member Bahraini business delegation led by Second Vice President of the BCCI Mohammed Abdul Jabbar Al-Kooheji visited Hyderabad and Bengaluru on 8-15 February. The delegation was joined by the Bahraini Ambassador to India and the Head of India Office of the Economic Development Board of Bahrain.

The Embassy of India in Bahrain, in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO), the BCCI and the Bahrain India Society (BIS), organised a Buyer-Seller Meet on the food and agriculture sectors on 23 September. The event was attended by Minister of Industry and Commerce of Bahrain Abdulla bin Adel Fakhro, Ambassador of Bahrain to India Abdulrahman Mohamed Ahmed Al Gaoud, Second Vice Chairman of the Bahrain Chamber of Commerce and Industry Mohamed Al Kooheji, and Chairman of the Bahrain India Society Abdul Rahman Juma.

A virtual conference on the second round of negotiations on the Bilateral Investment Treaty was held on 27 January. Subsequent rounds of discussions were held on 22 and 24 October, and on 26 November. Separately, officials of the Embassy held a virtual conference with the Minister of Commerce and Industry on 16 July to review trade-related issues and discuss strategies for enhancing exports.

Defence and Security Cooperation

As a full member of the Combined Maritime Forces in Bahrain, India saw significant defence engagements in multilateral and bilateral spheres. From January to June, India deployed five Navy officers as RAINBOW staff to CTF 150 Headquarters, which was commanded by New Zealand. Operations in various CTFs in Combined Maritime Forces were paused from 14 June in light of the Iran-Israel conflict. The operations resumed on 20 August.

Three ships from the Western Fleet of the Indian Navy INS Mormugao, INS Tarkash and INS Tabar, made a port call at Manama from 8-11 September. The visit reinforced India-Bahrain friendship and interactions with the Bahraini leadership, USNAVCENT and Combined Maritime Forces partners underscored the Indian Navy's commitment to regional maritime security reflecting the implementation of the Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR) initiative.

People–to–People Ties

E-Visa facility has been extended across 14 categories to Bahraini nationals travelling to India in 2025. This system allows Bahraini citizens to apply for and receive e-visas for categories such as tourism, business, medical, medical attendant, conference, Ayush, Ayush attendant, student, student dependents, film, mountaineering, transit and production investment through the Indian Visa Online website.

A Senior Auditor at the National Audit Office of Bahrain participated in the 'Use of Data Analytics and Emerging Technologies in Audit' course from 19 August - 4 September at the International Center for Information Systems and Audit, India.

Bahrain gave Royal Pardon to 164 Indian nationals in 2024 and to 196 Indian nationals in 2025.

Iran

This year marked the 75th anniversary of India-Iran diplomatic ties. Bilateral cooperation between India and Iran maintained its strong momentum in the period, with regular contacts at the leadership and official levels.

High Level Exchanges

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran Abbas Araghchi called on Hon'ble Rashtrapati Ji during his visit to India from 7–8 May. During the visit, he co-chaired the 20th India–Iran Joint Commission Meeting with EAM. This was his first visit to India since assuming office as Minister of Foreign Affairs in August 2024. He also met the NSA during the visit.



Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran Abbas Araghchi called on Hon'ble Rashtrapati Ji during his visit to India,



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran Abbas Araghchi during the India-Iran Joint Commission Meeting in New Delhi, May 2025

The meeting was held in New Delhi on the occasion of the 75th anniversary of the signing of the India–Iran Friendship Treaty. During the Joint Commission Meeting, both sides reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations and two MoUs on Customs Cooperation and on Cooperation in the Field of Medical Products Regulation, were signed during the meeting.

Following the terror attack in Pahalgam, President of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian, conveyed his condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack during a telephone call with Prime Minister on 26 April. Prime Minister spoke with President Masoud Pezeshkian on 22 June during the Iran–Israel conflict and emphasised the need for immediate de-escalation, dialogue and diplomacy.

On 5 June, the Lok Sabha Speaker met the Iran's Majles Speaker Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf on the margins of the BRICS Parliamentary Forum. EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs Abbas Araghchi on 17 February on the margins of the eighth Indian Ocean Conference in Muscat.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Islamic Republic of Iran Araghchi on the margins of the eighth Indian Ocean Conference in Muscat, February 2025

The two Ministers met again on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit on 7 July in Brazil and the SCO Foreign Ministers Meeting on 15 July in China. EAM also spoke with Foreign Minister Araghchi on 26 June following the cessation of hostilities and expressed appreciation for Iran's cooperation in the evacuation of Indian nationals.

Foreign Secretary and the Deputy Foreign Minister of Iran for Political Affairs Majid Takht Ravanchi co-chaired the 19th Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) on 3 January, in New Delhi. The 14th Joint Consular Committee Meeting took place in Tehran on 21 January.

The 20th India–Iran Joint Commission Meeting was co-chaired by EAM and Minister of Foreign Affairs Araghchi on 8 May, in New Delhi. Two MoUs on Customs Cooperation and on Cooperation in the Field of Medical Products Regulation, were signed during the meeting. The Iranian Foreign Minister also called on Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and met the NSA.

On 6 September, NSA conveyed congratulations to Ali Larijani on his appointment as Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council of Iran. The sixth Joint Secretary/Director General-level bilateral consultations were held in Tehran on 8 and 9 September, followed by trilateral consultations between India–Iran–Armenia and India–Iran–Uzbekistan.

Despite the challenging regional environment, the Mission in Tehran continued to promote commercial and cultural cooperation. A delegation from the Indian pharmaceutical sector participated in the Iran Pharma Exhibition 2025, and a delegation from the Gujarat Chamber of Commerce took part in the Iran Expo 2025 in April.

Operation Sindhu

During the Iran–Israel conflict, India conducted Operation Sindhu and evacuated 3,597 Indian nationals, nine Nepalese, four Sri Lankans, 14 OCI cardholders and one Iranian national. Iran temporarily reopened its airspace to facilitate evacuation flights.



Smiling families carrying Indian flags step into New Delhi after being evacuated from Mashhad on a special flight from Iran as part of Operation Sindhu, June 2025.

Iraq

India has been a traditional partner of Iraq with strong historical and civilisational linkages.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Iraq is now the seventh largest trade partner of India. During FY 2024-25, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 32.16 billion. This includes imports worth USD 28.89 billion and exports worth USD 3.21 billion. During the period 1 January – 31 December, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 29.98 billion. This includes imports worth USD 26.67 billion and exports worth USD 3.30 billion.

India's crude imports from Iraq in 2024-25 amounted to 50.90 MMT accounting for 20.90 percent of the total imports of India's crude oil. India's crude imports from Iraq for the period from 1 January – 31 December amounted to 51.447 MMT accounting for USD 26.12 billion.

There was sustained interest among Iraqi businesspersons in participating in trade fairs and exhibitions organised in India. Apex business chambers and export promotion organisations, including Exhibition and Trade Services India Private Limited, mounted business delegations to Iraq from January. Iraqi companies participated in the Indus Food trade show held on 8-10 January in Greater Noida. An Indian pavilion with 28 exhibitors was set up at the fifth Health Expo Iraq held at the Baghdad International Fair Grounds from 18-21 September under the sponsorship of Exhibition and Trade Services India Private Ltd.

People– to–People Ties

India continued to support capacity building in Iraq through the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme. More than 89 Iraqi officials availed of ITEC training during 2024-25. During FY 2025-26, 34 ITEC slots were utilised by Iraqi applicants. Under the ICCR Scholarship programme, 65 Iraqi students enrolled in Indian universities during the academic year 2024-25, while 50 scholarships were availed during the current academic year. In

June, 34 young diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iraq completed the fifth Special Course for Diplomats conducted by the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service in New Delhi.

India remained a preferred destination for Iraqi nationals seeking quality medical treatment at affordable costs. The Indian community in Iraq is estimated at around 35,000, primarily residing in Baghdad, the Kurdistan region, Basra, Najaf, and Karbala. Approximately 100,000 Indian pilgrims visited Baghdad, Karbala, Najaf, and Samarra for Arbaeen during August-September.

Kuwait

India–Kuwait relations continued to build on the momentum generated by the visit of Prime Minister to Kuwait in December 2024, during which the bilateral partnership was elevated to a strategic partnership. During the year, India – Kuwait relations were further strengthened by high level visits and interactions.

High Level Exchanges

EAM held a telephonic conversation with the then Foreign Minister of Kuwait Abdullah Ali Al-Yahya in April following the Pahalgam terror attack. An all-party Indian delegation visited Kuwait from 26 to 27 May to reaffirm India's position against terrorism following Operation Sindoor. The delegation met the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of State for Council of Ministers Affairs Sherida Abdullah Saad Al-Maousherji. The delegation also interacted with local and Indian media, civil society, and the Indian community.

Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas met Minister of Oil of Kuwait Tareq Sulaiman Al-Roumi on the margins of the ninth OPEC International Seminar in Vienna on 9 July.

The seventh round of Foreign Office Consultations took place in New Delhi on 26 August. Both sides reviewed bilateral cooperation, agreed to implement the action points identified during Prime Minister's 2024 visit to Kuwait, and committed to expediting pending Joint Working Group meetings in order to convene the first Joint Committee for Cooperation at the earliest opportunity. Bilateral outcomes included the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Financial Intelligence Unit of India and the Financial Intelligence Unit of Kuwait in July and the signing of an agreement on bilateral seat-sharing capacity between India and Kuwait in July.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Total bilateral trade during FY 2024-25 reached USD 10.22 billion, including Indian exports valued at USD 1.93 billion. Kuwait continues to play an important role in India's energy security by accounting for approximately 3.5 percent of India's total energy needs, ranking as India's sixth-largest crude oil supplier and fifth-largest LPG source. The Mission organised a series of trade and investment promotion activities during the period. To strengthen investment cooperation, the Kuwait Investment Authority held interactions with key Indian stakeholders led by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, followed by meetings with the Department of Revenue and the National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited.

Defence and Security Cooperation

India and Kuwait ratified the MoU on Defence Cooperation in September. The Indian Coast Guard ship ICGS Sarthak undertook a goodwill visit from 9-13 December and conducted a joint maritime exercise with the Kuwaiti Navy patrol boat Garoh.

Cultural

The Mission organised several events highlighting India's cultural heritage and the growing partnership between the two countries. These included 'Rihla-e-Dosti,' an exhibition marking 250 years of India-Kuwait partnership held with the National Council for Culture, Arts and Letters at the Kuwait National Library in May; 'Bharat Mela' in February, showcasing Indian art, cuisine, music and fashion; and the 11th International Day of Yoga, conducted for the first time on a large public scale at Salmiya Boulevard. India Corners were established at the American University of Kuwait and the Kuwait National Library to deepen cultural engagement.

Sheikha Shaikha Ali Jaber Al-Sabah, the first Kuwaiti national, received the Padma Shri award in April for her work in promoting yoga in Kuwait and the Arab world.

Oman

India and Oman share centuries-old historic relations deeply rooted in strong people-to-people ties, with approximately 700,000 Indian nationals residing in Oman. Both sides celebrated 70 years of establishment of diplomatic relations by further strengthening their close and multi-dimensional partnership. The relationship advanced across political, defence, economic and cultural domains.

High Level Exchanges

Prime Minister visited Oman from 17-18 December. The key highlight of the visit was the conclusion of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) between the two sides. Several MoUs and agreements were signed in the areas of higher education, maritime heritage and museums, agriculture, and Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) on millets. A Joint Vision Document on Maritime Cooperation was also adopted. The two sides reviewed progress in defence, maritime cooperation, digitalisation, information technology, agriculture, education, and energy. During the visit, Prime Minister addressed the India–Oman Business Summit and a community event attended by more than 4,000 members of the Indian diaspora and over 700 school children.



Prime Minister interacted with members of the Indian community, including students in Muscat, Oman, December 2025

Prime Minister held delegation-level as well as one-on-one talks with the Sultan of Oman Sultan Haitham bin Tariq. During the Visit, Sultan Haitham bin Tariq of Oman conferred the 'Order of Oman (First Class)' on Prime Minister in recognition of his exceptional contribution to strengthening India–Oman relations and his leadership.



Prime Minister conferred with the Order of Oman (First Class) by Sultan of Oman Sultan Haitham bin Tariq in Muscat, December 2025



Prime Minister met Sultan of Oman Sultan Haitham bin Tariq, in Muscat, Oman, December 2025

The signing of the CEPA during the visit marked a new phase in India–Oman economic partnership. The agreement unlocked export opportunities for India's labour-intensive sectors, including textiles,

leather, footwear, gems and jewellery, engineering products, plastics, furniture, agricultural products, pharmaceuticals, medical devices, and automobiles, contributing to employment generation and empowerment of artisans, women-led enterprises, and MSMEs. It also established a comprehensive framework for services trade covering IT, business and professional services, R&D, education, health, and audio-visual services.

EAM held a telephone conversation with the Foreign Minister of Oman Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi in April and discussed bilateral and regional issues. On 16 February, EAM participated in the eighth Indian Ocean Conference held in Muscat, during which he jointly unveiled the logo marking 70 years of diplomatic relations and launched the book Mandvi to Muscat: Indian Community and the Shared History of India and Oman with the Foreign Minister of Oman Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi.

On 3 December Foreign Minister of Oman Sayyid Badr Al Busaidi and EAM held a telephonic conversation and reviewed preparations for the visit of Prime Minister to Oman and discussed bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of mutual concern.

In April, Oman issued a statement condemning the attack targeting tourists in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir. In May, Oman issued a statement welcoming the ceasefire agreement between India and Pakistan.

During the year, various Joint Working Group meetings were held in the fields of health, manpower, science and technology, and maritime cooperation.

The 10th Strategic Dialogue between India and Oman was held in February. Secretary General of the National Security Council of Oman Major General Idris Al Kindi visited India and co-chaired the dialogue with the Deputy National Security Adviser, reviewing the entire range of bilateral cooperation.

The ninth meeting of the India-Oman Joint Working Group on Manpower was held virtually on 27 August. The Indian delegation was led by the Additional Secretary (Overseas Employment and Welfare), and the Omani side was led by Undersecretary in the Ministry of Labour Khalid bin Salem Al Ghammari. Both sides agreed to further strengthen cooperation in manpower and labour welfare.

The 14th round of the India–Oman Strategic Consultative Group meeting was held in Muscat on 4 December. The meeting was co-chaired by Secretary (CPV & OIA) and Undersecretary for Political Affairs Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Oman Sheikh Khalifa Alharthy. Both sides reviewed the full spectrum of bilateral cooperation, including political and strategic cooperation, trade and investment, energy, maritime and defence partnership, digital collaboration, cultural exchanges, and people-to-people ties. Preparations for the visit of Prime Minister to Oman were also reviewed.



EAM along with the Foreign Minister of Oman Sayyid Badr Albusaidi jointly unveiled the logo marking 70 years of diplomatic relations and launched the book Mandvi to Muscat: Indian Community and the Shared History of India and Oman, on the sidelines of eighth Indian Ocean Conference held in Muscat, February 2025

A delegation from the National Records and Archives Authority, led by its Chairman, visited India from 9-11 February. During the visit, the Authority and the National Archives of India signed an executive programme of cooperation. An exhibition titled Legacy of Indo-Oman Relations was inaugurated.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

India continued to be Oman's fourth-largest crude oil export market and the third-largest market for non-oil exports. Bilateral trade stood at USD 10.6 billion in FY 2024-25. Ratification of Protocol amending the Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement, signing of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement and ongoing negotiations on the Bilateral Investment Treaty reflected a shared commitment to deepening economic engagement. Business-to-business interactions facilitated by the Mission spanned across agriculture, energy, healthcare, education and manufacturing sectors.

On 27-28 January, the Minister of Commerce and Industry led the Indian delegation to Muscat to co-chair the 11th meeting of the India-Oman Joint Commission. He addressed the closing session of the India-Oman Joint Business Council co-hosted by the Oman Chamber of Commerce and Industry with participation of a delegation from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Both sides signed a protocol to amend the agreement on avoidance of double taxation and prevention of fiscal evasion with respect to taxes on income. Minister of Commerce and Industry also attended the Republic Day reception hosted by the Embassy as a special guest.

On 16 September, the Embassy launched the India-Oman Network, a Track 1.5 platform designed to complement existing partnership promotion mechanisms.

Defence and Security Cooperation

The defence partnership remained a key pillar. A delegation of eight officials headed by the Commander of the Royal Air Force of Oman visited Bengaluru for Aero India 2025 from 9-11 February.

A delegation of three Indian naval medical officers visited Muscat to participate in the third International Diving and Hyperbaric Medicine Conference from 3-6 February. Indian Navy Ships Mormugao, Tabar and Tarkash visited the Port of Duqm from 31 August - 1 September. Indian Navy Ships Chennai, Tushil and Deepak visited the Sultan Qaboos Port from 3-6 September, with the Flag Officer Commanding the Western Fleet embarked during the visit.

The sixth high level meeting between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the Royal Oman Police Coast Guard (ROPCG) was held in Muscat from 29-30 April, led by the Director General, Indian Coast Guard, and the Commander, Royal Oman Police Coast Guard. Staff talks were held in Muscat between the Indian Navy and the Royal Navy of Oman from 1-3 September. The third Army-to-Army Staff Talks between the Indian Army and the Royal Army of Oman were held in New Delhi from 22-23 October.

Engineering Projects India Ltd. completed the phase two of the border fencing project on the southern border of Oman which was appreciated by the Omani leadership.

The 13th meeting of the Joint Military Cooperation Committee was held in New Delhi on 24 November. Post JMCC, the delegates visited select facilities of Indian Defence Industry in Hyderabad, namely Bharat Dynamic Limited (BDL), Zen Technologies and Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL).

A shipbuilding contract between M/s Swan Defence Heavy Industries Limited and Ministry of Defence, Oman was signed on 3 December, towards induction of a warship to meet training requirements of Royal Navy of Oman.

In a major enhancement of India-Oman defence training cooperation, the Royal Navy of Oman has, for the first time, deputed six cadets for a one year training course at the Indian Naval Academy in Kerala.

With over 200 OFCs and over 40 OTRs conducted in this year, Oman supported extensive operations by Indian warships and aircraft in the region.

Indian Naval Sailing Vessel Kaundinya sailed from Porbandar to Muscat on 29 December 2025 on her maiden overseas voyage, reviving India's ancient stitched shipbuilding and maritime traditions. The vessel was formally flagged off by Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Western Naval Command, in the august presence of Ambassador of the Sultanate of Oman to India, along with senior officers of the Indian Navy and distinguished guests.

Qatar

India-Qatar relations deepened during the year, with the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani's State Visit to India in February leading to the elevation of bilateral ties to a strategic partnership. Both countries continued to strengthen ties across various domains, including high-level exchanges, trade, energy cooperation, and people-to-people linkages. The Indian diaspora remained the largest expatriate community in Qatar and continues to serve as a strong bridge between the two countries.

High Level Exchanges

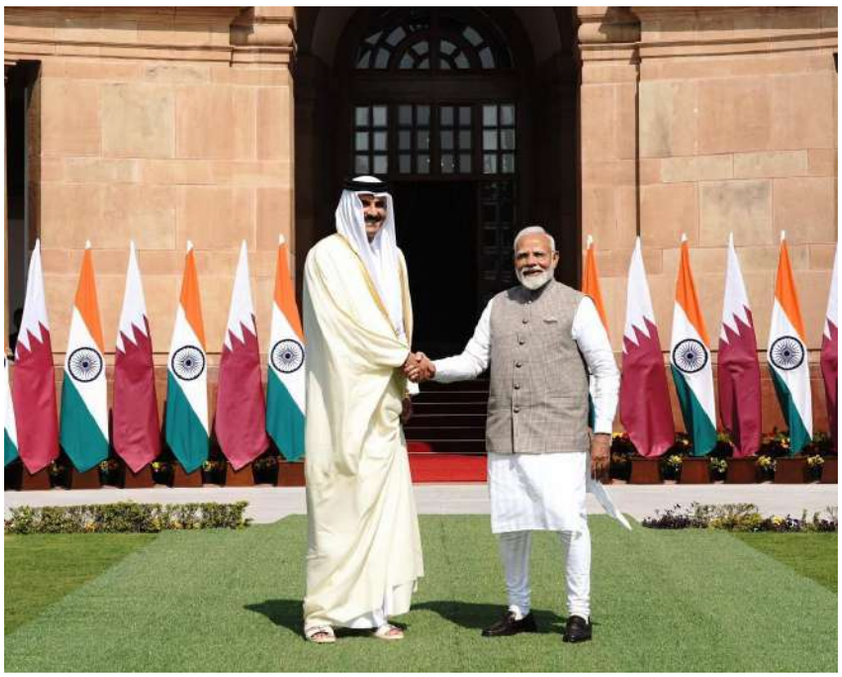
The Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani paid a State Visit to India from 17-18 February. During the visit, the Amir and Prime Minister held bilateral discussions and concluded an agreement establishing a bilateral strategic partnership between India and Qatar. Six agreements and MoUs, including the revised Double Taxation Avoidance Agreement and MoUs promoting cooperation in investments, sports, youth affairs and documents and archives, were signed. The Amir also met the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, the then Hon'ble Vice-President, the EAM and the Minister of Health and Family Welfare.



Prime Minister welcomed Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al-Thani at the airport as he arrived in New Delhi on his second State visit to India, February 2025.



Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani accorded ceremonial reception at Rashtrapati Bhavan on his second State Visit to India, February 2025.



Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani met Prime Minister in New Delhi during his State Visit to India, February 2025.



Prime Minister and Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani oversee the exchange of MoUs by EAM and Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al-Thani in New Delhi, February 2025.

In the Joint Statement issued during the visit, Qatar Investment Authority announced its decision to open an office in India and committed USD 10 billion in investments. Both sides also agreed to double bilateral trade by 2030. A Qatar-India Joint Business Forum was held on the sidelines, co-chaired by the Minister of Commerce and Industry of India and Minister of Commerce and Industry of Qatar Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani.



EAM called on Amir of the State of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani during his visit to India, February 2025

Prime Minister and the Amir of Qatar held a telephonic conversation on 6 May and discussed developments following the terror attack in Pahalgam. They also spoke on 10 September following the missile attacks on 9 September in Doha, and condemned the violation of Qatari sovereignty.

EAM held a telephonic conversation with Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani on 7 May and discussed developments following the attack in Pahalgam on 22 April. Both leaders also spoke on 26 June following the Iranian missile attack on Qatar on 23 June.

EAM visited Qatar from 15-16 November. He called on the Amir of Qatar Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani and held talks with Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani. Together they reviewed the full spectrum of the bilateral strategic partnership and exchanged views on regional and global developments.



EAM met Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman bin Jassim Al Thani in Doha, November 2025

The Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs of Qatar Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Sayed led a high-level investment delegation to India from 27-28 August. He co-chaired a high-level investment meeting with the MoS (Finance) and discussed enhancing Qatari investments in India, especially in transport, logistics, food processing, health, defence production, semiconductors and finance. He also called on the Minister of Commerce and Industry and the Minister of Finance.

The Minister of State for Energy Affairs of Qatar Saad bin Sherida Al Kaabi visited India from 11-12 February and participated in India Energy Week in New Delhi. He met the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and senior executives of major Indian energy companies on the sidelines.

Minister of Culture of Qatar Sheikh Abdulrahman bin Hamad Al Thani visited India to participate in the 20th session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage from 8-13 December in New Delhi. Separately, the Minister of Labour and Employment and Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports visited Doha to participate in the second World Summit for Social Development from 3-6 November and met Minister of Social Development and Family of Qatar Buthaina bint Ali Al Jabr Al Nuaimi on the sidelines. India's Permanent Representative and Ambassador to Austria led the Indian delegation for the meeting of the Conference of State Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption in Doha from 15-19 December.

Minister of Commerce and Industry visited Doha from 5-7 October to co-chair the first meeting of the renewed Joint Commission on Economic and Commercial Cooperation with Minister of Commerce and Industry of Qatar Sheikh Faisal bin Thani bin Faisal Al Thani. Both Ministers also addressed the inaugural meeting of the India-Qatar Joint Business Council, co-chaired by the Qatar Chamber and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. During the visit, Minister of Commerce and Industry met Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar Sheikh Mohammed bin Abdulrahman Al Thani, the Minister of State for Foreign Trade Affairs Ahmed bin Mohammed Al Sayed, the Governor of the Qatar Central Bank and Chairman of the Qatar Investment Authority Sheikh Bandar bin Mohammed bin Saoud Al Thani, and senior executives of major Qatari institutions including Qatar Airways, Qatar Free Zones Authority, Qatar National Bank and Qatar Development Bank. The Minister also attended the launch event for India's UPI payment system in Qatar held at a Lulu supermarket.

An all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Qatar from 24-26 May following the terror attack in Pahalgam. The delegation met the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar Mohammed bin Abdulaziz bin Saleh Al Khulaifi, the Minister of State for Interior Affairs Sheikh Abdulaziz bin Faisal bin Mohammed Al Thani, and the Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council Hamda bint Hassan Al Sulaiti, in addition to several members of the Shura Council. The delegation also interacted with representatives from Qatari civil society, media, think tanks and academia.

Both countries continued official-level engagements through bilateral institutional mechanisms. The eighth meeting of the Joint Working Group on Labour and Manpower was held on 10 February and co-chaired by the Additional Secretary (EPW), Ministry of External Affairs, and the Director for Labour Affairs of Qatar. The India-Qatar Joint Business Council held its introductory virtual meeting on 13 February. The fifth meeting of the Joint Task Force on Energy was held virtually on 17 February ahead of Amir's visit and was co-chaired by the OSD (IC), Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, and the Vice President of Qatar Petroleum.

A delegation from Qatar Leadership Centre visited Delhi and Mumbai from 10-14 November and held interactions with senior officials at the Indian Parliament, this Ministry, IIT Delhi, the State Government of Maharashtra, and other private institutions. A delegation led by the Secretary General of the Qatar National Archives Ahmed Abdullah Ali Al Jibran Al Buainain visited India from 4-8 August and held meetings at the National Archives of India in New Delhi and the Maharashtra State Archives in Mumbai.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

India-Qatar bilateral trade remained robust at USD 14.14 billion in FY 2024-25. Energy continued to form the core of bilateral trade, with Qatar remaining a major supplier of LNG and LPG to India. Both sides discussed a Bilateral Investment Treaty and the Terms of Reference for launching FTA negotiations.

Qatar National Bank and Doha Insurance Group announced the opening of offices in GIFT City in March. On 15 September, NPCI International Payments Ltd and Qatar National Bank announced the acceptance of UPI payments in Qatar at its point-of-sale systems. NPCI also concluded an agreement with the Commercial Bank of Qatar for the launch of UPI on its payment terminals.

Several Indian business delegations visited Qatar to explore commercial opportunities, including delegations from the IGTD EXIM Chamber of Commerce from 16-19 June and PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry (PHDCCI) from 21-23 September. The Embassy, in partnership with state governments, organised tourism roadshows promoting Goa on 9 April and Madhya Pradesh on 3 May. A tribal products exhibition was held from 26-28 January to promote indigenous handicrafts, jewellery, textiles and organic products. A Buyer-Seller Meet on agarwood and its derivatives was held on 6 September. Qatar announced a year-long partnership with the Nita Mukesh Ambani Cultural Centre in Mumbai on 22 July to promote Qatar's heritage, attractions and luxury experiences to Indian tourists.

People-to-People Contacts

Indian diaspora being the largest expatriate community in Qatar act as a living bridge between India and Qatar. A large cultural festival was organised in association with Indian community organisations to celebrate Labour Day in May. The second edition of the Indian Mango Festival was held from 12-21 June, with over 50,000 visitors from more than 60 nationalities attending the festival and total sales of 130,000 kilograms of mangoes.

Saudi Arabia

India and Saudi Arabia continued the momentum of wide-ranging cooperation under the framework of the Strategic Partnership Council underpinned by regular high-level political and commercial exchanges.

High Level Exchanges

India's engagement with the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia advanced significantly during the year. Prime Minister undertook a State Visit to Saudi Arabia on 22 April, his third visit to the Kingdom and first to Jeddah. He was received by Crown Prince and Prime Minister of Saudi Arabia Prince Mohammed bin Salman at the Royal Palace and accorded a ceremonial welcome. Both leaders held official talks and co-chaired the second meeting of the India–Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council.



Prime Minister met Crown Prince and Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia Prince Mohammed bin Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud, in Jeddah, April 2025.

During the visit, Prime Minister received separate calls from Secretary General of the Muslim World League Sheikh Mohammed Al Issa, Padma Shri awardee Nouf Marwaai and Deputy Editor-in-Chief of Arab News Noor Nugali. He also interacted with the Indian community. A Joint Statement issued after the visit condemned cross-border terrorism. The Strategic Partnership Council was expanded to include two new pillars for defence cooperation, and tourism and cultural cooperation. Both sides agreed to collaborate

on establishing two oil refineries in India and signed four MoUs and agreements in space, health, sports (anti-doping) and postal cooperation.

Ministerial and senior official engagements remained active. On 28 September, EAM held a meeting with Foreign Minister of the Saudi Arabia Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud in New York on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly. They also met on the sidelines of the G7 Ministerial Meeting on 12 November in Niagara, Canada.



EAM met Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Faisal bin Farhan Al Saud on the sidelines of G7 Ministerial Meeting in Niagara, Canada, November 2025

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Minister of Minority Affairs visited Riyadh, Jeddah and Madinah from 11-14 January to sign the Annual Haj Agreement 2025 and held meetings with senior Saudi dignitaries. The Minister of Coal and Mines visited Riyadh from 14-15 January to participate in the Future Minerals Forum 2025. On 24 January, the Minister for Railways, Information and Broadcasting, and Electronics and Information Technology met his Saudi counterpart in Davos. A high-level delegation led by the Minister of Commerce and Industry of Saudi Arabia Bandar Ibrahim Alkhorayef visited India from 3-6 February for meetings with senior Indian Ministers and business organisations. The Minister of Law and Justice visited Riyadh from 23-24 February and inaugurated the Indian Council of Arbitration Symposium during the Riyadh International Disputes Week 2025.

Further engagements included the second meeting of the Joint High-Level Task Force, co-chaired by the Principal Secretary to Prime Minister and the Minister of Energy of Saudi Arabia Prince Abdulaziz bin Salman on 21 April in Riyadh. The Minister of State for Foreign Affairs of Saudi Arabia Adel bin Ahmed Al Jubeir visited India on 8 May and met EAM. A delegation led by Minister of Health and Family Welfare, Chemicals and Fertilizers visited Saudi Arabia from 11-13 July, securing commitments for long-term supply of fertilisers. Agreements between Maaden and Indian companies increased supply of diammonium phosphate fertiliser to 3.1 million MT from FY 2025-26 onwards. Discussions also covered cooperation in the medical sector, pharmaceuticals, digital health and knowledge exchange.

In July several virtual engagements were held between Minister of Commerce and Industry and the Minister of Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia Faisal bin Fadel Al Ibrahim, as well as with the Minister of Investment of Saudi Arabia Khalid Al Falih, and between the Minister of Civil Aviation and the Minister of Transport and Logistics of Saudi Arabia Saleh bin Nasser Al Jasser. On 20 August, the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways held a virtual meeting with his Saudi counterpart, followed by a telephone conversation on 28 August between the Minister of Labour and Employment and his Saudi counterpart.

The Minister of Civil Aviation met his Saudi Arabian counterpart on 27 September on the margins of the 42nd General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organisation in Montreal. The Minister of Tourism and Culture visited Riyadh on 9 November and signed an MoU on cultural cooperation with the Minister of Culture of Saudi Arabia Badr bin Abdullah bin Farhan Al Saud. The Minister of Investment of Saudi Arabia Khalid Al Falih accompanied by a business delegation visited New Delhi on 12 November. He held bilateral meetings with the Ministers of Finance and Commerce & Industry. The Minister of Minority Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs visited Saudi Arabia on 7-9 November to sign the Annual Haj Agreement

2026 and to hold meetings with Saudi dignitaries. The Minister of Education of Saudi Arabia Yousef Al Benyan visited Delhi and held a bilateral meeting with the Minister of Education on 9 December.

An all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Riyadh in May following the terror attack in Pahalgam and met Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council Mishaal Al Salmi and the Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Adel bin Ahmed Al Jubeir, and engaged with the Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute for Diplomatic Studies, the Gulf Research Centre and the Naif Arab University for Security Sciences. A delegation from the Saudi–India Parliamentary Friendship Committee of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia visited India for the first time from 3- 4 December. The delegation held bilateral engagements with Parliament and this Ministry.



Delegation from the Saudi–India Parliamentary Friendship Committee of the Shura Council of Saudi Arabia met MoS (KVS) in New Delhi, December 2025

Secretary (Information and Broadcasting) visited Riyadh from 18-20 February to attend the Saudi Media Forum and the Future of Media Exhibition. Attorney General of India attended Riyadh International Disputes Week from 23-24 February. On 22 July, Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog met the Minister of Economy and Planning of Saudi Arabia on the sidelines of the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development in New York. From 31 August to 3 September, Chairman of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India visited Riyadh for the ITU Global Symposium for Regulators 2025. From 17-18 September, a National Thermal Power Corporation (NTPC) delegation visited Riyadh to sign a MoU for cooperation with the Saudi Electricity Company. A Saudi delegation led by Vice Minister of Industry and Mineral Resources for Industrial Affairs Khalil bin Ibrahim bin Salamah visited India from 13-16 October for official engagements. On 27-28 October, a Saudi delegation led by the Vice Minister of Transport and Logistics Services Rumaih bin Mohammed Al-Rumaih participated in the India Maritime Week 2025 in Mumbai.

A Saudi delegation participated in the National Conference on Strategic Trade Control (NCTSC) in Bengaluru in January. One Saudi diplomat attended the combined training course for diplomats at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service in February. The ninth edition of the Prince Saud Al-Faisal Institute of Diplomatic Studies (PSAIDS) and Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) Dialogue was held in Riyadh in February. The Saudi Deputy Minister for International Multilateral Affairs Abdulrahman bin Ibrahim Al Rassi led the Saudi delegation at the eighth Indian Ocean Conference in Muscat. Three senior Saudi diplomats participated in the Raisina Dialogue in March in New Delhi.

In June, a virtual meeting under the MoU on space cooperation was held between ISRO and the Saudi Space Agency. Saudi Arabia joined the International Big Cat Alliance in July. An MoU was signed in November between Invest India and the General Authority for Small and Medium Enterprises of Saudi Arabia for cooperation in the area of startups and entrepreneurship in Riyadh.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Bilateral economic and investment relations made steady progress. India is the second-largest trade partner of Saudi Arabia, while Saudi Arabia is the fifth-largest trading partner of India. In FY 2024-25, total trade stood at USD 41.88 billion. In FY 2025-26 (April - December 2025), the bilateral trade is USD 30.8 billion. Major Indian exports included engineering goods, rice, petroleum products, chemicals, textiles, food products and ceramic tiles. Major imports

included crude oil, LPG, fertilizers, chemicals, plastics and related products. Saudi Arabia was India's third-largest source of crude and petroleum products. India imported 33.14 MMT of crude oil from Saudi Arabia in FY 2024-25, accounting for 13.58 percent of total imports. India imported 3.34 MMT of LPG from Saudi Arabia in FY 2024-25, accounting for 14.99 percent of total LPG imports. Saudi Arabia remained a major supplier of fertilizers, particularly as the second-largest source of Diammonium Phosphate (DAP) for India.

Defence and Security Cooperation

Defence cooperation registered substantive progress during the year. On 3- 4 December the Chief of General Staff of Saudi Arabia General Fayyad bin Hamed Al-Ruwaili visited India for the first time. He held a bilateral meeting with the Chief of Defence Staff. A new Ministerial Committee on Defence Cooperation under the Strategic Partnership Council was announced in April. The inaugural Navy Staff Talks were held in Riyadh in February, followed by the inaugural Army Staff Talks in New Delhi in April. A high-level Saudi military delegation participated in Aero India from 9–11 February. Indian Naval Ships Tamal and Surat made a port call at Jeddah in August and conducted a PASSEX with the Royal Saudi Naval Forces.



INS Tamal and Surat made a port call at Jeddah and conducted a PASSEX with the Royal Saudi Naval Forces, August 2025

Indian Coast Guard Ship ICGS Sarthak conducted a goodwill visit to Dammam, Saudi Arabia, on 21–25 December.

A Saudi delegation undertook a study visit to the Information Fusion Centre–Indian Ocean Region in Gurugram in July. The seventh meeting of the Joint Committee on Defence Cooperation was held in New Delhi in August. A delegation from the National Defence College of India visited Saudi Arabia in September for a familiarisation tour.

People-to-People

Cultural and people-to-people exchanges expanded during the year. On 17 December, a bilateral agreement for mutual exemption from short-stay visa requirements for holders of diplomatic, special and official passports of India and Saudi Arabia was signed in Riyadh.

The Saudi Film Commission organised 'Saudi Film Nights' in Delhi, Mumbai and Hyderabad from 31 January to 5 February. The Literature, Publishing and Translation Commission of Saudi Arabia participated in the New Delhi World Book Fair in February. In the same month, the Embassy and the Royal Commission for Riyadh City hosted the musical performance 'Three Generations, One Melody' featuring Indian sarod maestro Ustad Amjad Ali Khan. A delegation led by Chairman of the Saudi Esports Federation Prince Faisal bin Bandar Al Saud participated in the WAVES Summit in Mumbai, in May.

A two-member delegation from the National Archives of India attended a symposium titled 'Arabic Documents in Indian Archives' on 29 July, jointly organised by the National Archives of India and the King Abdulaziz Foundation. In October, a delegation from the Darah Foundation undertook a study visit to the National Archives of India.

Indian participation in sporting and cultural events in Saudi Arabia also increased. Esports team S8UL visited Riyadh to participate in the Esports World Cup in July–August. The Indian men's basketball team visited Jeddah for the 31st FIBA Asia Cup in August. The Embassy organised Hindi Diwas celebrations in September with participation from Saudi nationals.

Saudi football team Al Nassr FC played FC Goa in the AFC Champions League on 22 October, in Goa, and on 6 November in Riyadh. The Embassy organised the third edition of the week-long cultural programme 'Pravasi Parichay' from 28 October to 3 November. Indian art and cultural groups participated in Riyadh Season.

Syed Anwar Khursheed, an Indian medical professional in Saudi Arabia, received the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award in January. India–Saudi Joint Committee Meetings on Labour Cooperation were held in April and October. The number of Indians living in Saudi Arabia increased to 2.74 million. The Hajj and Umrah pilgrimages for the year were successfully completed with active support from the Government of Saudi Arabia.

India – GCC

Secretary (CPV&OIA) visited Riyadh on 7-8 September for the India–Gulf Cooperation Council Political Dialogue. He held wide-ranging discussions with Assistant Secretary General for Political Affairs and Negotiations of the Gulf Cooperation Council Abdulaziz Aluwaisheg and reviewed the implementation of the India–GCC Joint Action Plan 2024-2028. Under the Joint Action Plan, online meetings and interactions were also held on health, energy, trade and investment, and agriculture and food security pillars during the year.

India's economic linkages with the Gulf Cooperation Council continued to increase steadily. In FY 2024-25, India–GCC bilateral trade reached USD 178.56 billion, accounting for 15.42 percent of India's global trade. In FY 2025-26 (April - December 2025), India-GCC bilateral trade stood at USD 136.72 billion. Saudi Arabia remained India's second largest GCC trade partner after the United Arab Emirates.

UAE

India and the United Arab Emirates further deepened their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2025 through regular high-level visits, stronger institutional mechanisms and sustained strategic dialogue. This political momentum enabled closer defence and security cooperation, supported by upgraded dialogue platforms, tri-service staff engagements and frequent joint exercises.

High Level Exchanges

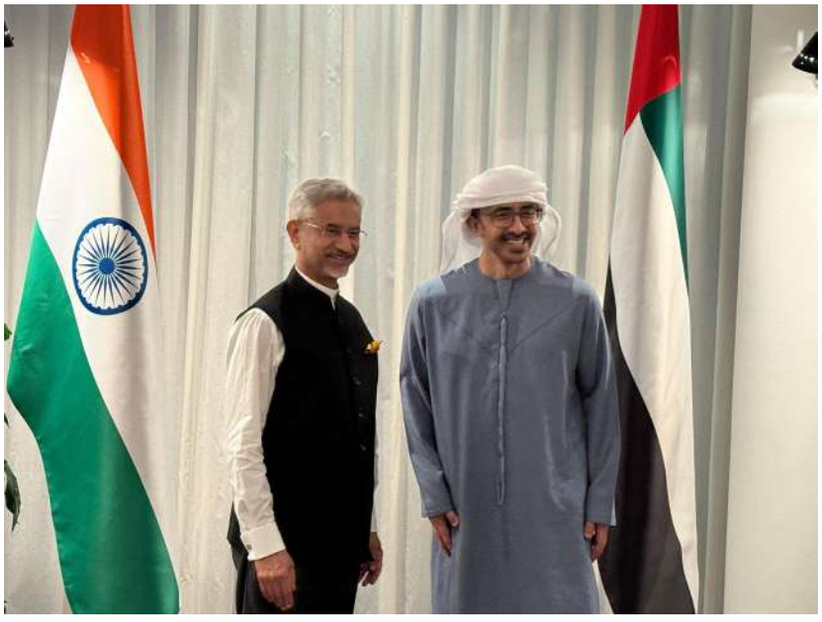
The Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence of the United Arab Emirates Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, undertook an official visit to India from 8-9 April. During the visit, he called on Prime Minister in New Delhi.

The visit resulted in the signing of MoUs and several key announcements, including the establishment of a campus of IIM Ahmedabad in Dubai and the first overseas campus of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade at Expo City Dubai. The visit also marked the launch of the construction of Bharat Mart and its 3D model, allocation of land for the UAE–India Friendship Hospital, development of ship-repair clusters at Kochi and Vadinar, and the opening of an India office of the Dubai Chamber of Commerce.



Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Defence Minister of UAE Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum called on Prime Minister during his visit to New Delhi, April 2025

EAM travelled to the United Arab Emirates from 27-29 January, during which he held meetings with President Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan; Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed; and Crown Prince of Dubai Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs and Deputy Prime Minister of UAE Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, January 2025

EAM visited the United Arab Emirates again from 13 to 15 December. During the visit, he participated in the Sir Bani Yas Forum from 13 to 14 December and co-chaired the 16th Joint Commission Meeting and the fifth Strategic Dialogue on 15 December with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. EAM also held meetings with the Vice President and Deputy Prime Minister of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Mansour bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the National Security Adviser of the United Arab Emirates Sheikh Tahnoun bin Zayed Al Nahyan, and the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Mubadala Khaldoon Mubarak.



EAM called on President of UAE Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi, January 2025

Minister of Environment and Climate Change held meetings in the United Arab Emirates from 11–13 February. The Minister of Food Processing and Industries visited from 17–21 February. The Minister of Culture travelled on 28–29 April. The Minister of Heavy Industries and Steel visited from 30 June to 2 July. The Minister of Communications visited from 7–9 September, followed by the visit of the Minister of Education from 10–11 September. The Minister of Commerce and Industry visited from 18–19 September. MoS (KVS) undertook a visit from 9–11 October. MoS (Defence) visited from 17-18 November.

Ministerial visits from UAE to India included the visit of Minister of State for Cultural Affairs Noura bint Mohammed Al Kaabi for the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi in March; the visit of Minister of State for Foreign Trade Thani bin Ahmed Al Zeyoudi on 29–30 August and the visit of Minister of State for International Cooperation Reem Al Hashimy on 10 September.

India and the United Arab Emirates maintained strong institutional mechanisms across sectors. Several platforms met during the year to review and advance the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. The first Joint Steering Committee of the India–UAE Cultural Council was held in New Delhi on 19 March, followed by the second meeting of the India–UAE Cultural Council in Abu Dhabi on 9 October. The 13th Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting, along with the fourth Army-to-Army, ninth Navy-to-Navy and inaugural Air-to-Air Staff Talks, was held from 28–30 July in New Delhi. The 13th meeting of the UAE–India High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments convened on 18–19 September in Abu Dhabi. The sixth meeting of the India-UAE Joint Committee on Consular Affairs was held in Abu Dhabi on 26 November. The third Joint Committee meeting under the India – UAE CEPA was held on 27 November. The Mid-Year Review was held on 9–10 June followed by the 16th Joint Commission meeting and fifth Strategic Dialogue on 15 December.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

United Arab Emirates is India's second-largest export destination. Bilateral trade reached USD 100.06 billion in FY 2024-25. In FY 2025-26, trade continued to expand, with total trade at USD 89.44 billion during April–January, reflecting an 11.11 percent increase over the corresponding period of the previous year. Non-oil trade also remained strong, reaching USD 49.45 billion during April–November FY 2025-26, marking a 14.80 percent rise, reflecting continued diversification under CEPA. The Minister of Commerce and Industry visited on 18-19 September and attended the 13th High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments, during which he announced the establishment of the first overseas campus of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade at Expo City Dubai. Economic cooperation expanded into fintech, digital public infrastructure, artificial intelligence, renewable energy, green hydrogen, critical minerals, healthcare innovation and logistics, indicating a shift toward a broad-based strategic economic partnership.

Defence and Security Cooperation

Defence cooperation advanced through the visit of the Crown Prince of Dubai and Defence Minister of UAE Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed Al Maktoum to India in April. This was followed by the visits of the Commander of the UAE Navy (July), UAE Land Forces (October) and the Commander of the UAE Air Force and Air Defence (October).

India participated in Exercise Desert Flag-10 in the United Arab Emirates from April to May, and both countries held the joint exercise Desert Cyclone-II from 18 to 30 December between the Indian Army and the UAE Land Forces. These engagements were further strengthened through the 13th Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting held on 30 July, which, for the first time, was convened at the Secretary level.



Indian Air Force participated in the Exercise Desert Flag-10 along with United Arab Emirates Air Force in Al Dhafra Air Base, April 2025

The Joint Defence Cooperation Committee meeting was preceded by the fourth Army-to-Army, ninth Navy-to-Navy and inaugural Air-to-Air Staff Talks on 28-29 July, and was followed by the second India–UAE Defence Partnership Forum on 31 July, which enhanced operational and industrial engagements.

A MoU between the Indian Coast Guard and relevant authorities of the United Arab Emirates was signed on 30 July to strengthen maritime security, information sharing, coordinated search and rescue operations and capacity-building. India participated with a large delegation along with an India Pavilion, at the International Defence Exhibition and Naval Defence Exhibition held in Abu Dhabi in February. India also participated in the Dubai Airshow 2025 held in November led by MoS (Defence) who also inaugurated the India pavilion featuring HAL, DRDO, Corel Technologies, Dantal Hydraulics, Image Synergy, Ekxplor and SPO Technologies. A UAE delegation participated in the 2025 edition of Aero India at Bengaluru.

People-to-people Ties

People-to-people ties remained robust, with the Indian community in the United Arab Emirates growing from approximately 3.89 million in December 2023 to around 4.36 million by December 2024. The education sector gained momentum in 2025, marked by the expansion of leading Indian institutions and innovation ecosystems. On 10 September, the Minister of Education launched the first overseas Atal Innovation Centre at the IIT Delhi–Abu Dhabi campus and also inaugurated PhD and BTech programmes in energy and sustainability. On 11 September, the IIM-Ahmedabad Dubai Campus was jointly inaugurated by the Minister of Education and Crown Prince of Dubai Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum marking the launch of IIM-A's first overseas MBA programme. India also announced the establishment of the first overseas Atal Tinkering Labs in CBSE schools across the United Arab Emirates. Cultural cooperation advanced through the first and second meetings of the Joint Steering Committee of the India–UAE Cultural Council on 19 March and 9 October, focusing on cultural exchanges, heritage collaboration, youth engagement and institutional partnerships.

Yemen

India's relationship with Yemen is centuries old, anchored in strong people-to-people ties. Despite the challenging security situation, both countries continued to maintain close relations. India remained committed to a peaceful, Yemeni-led and Yemeni-owned political resolution of the conflict through dialogue.

India opened the new building of its representative Office in Aden, Yemen in October to facilitate consular services. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Yemen welcomed the decision, noting that the establishment of the office reflected the strength of bilateral relations and the shared commitment to deepen cooperation across political, economic and cultural fields.

On 16–17 February, a delegation led by the Ambassador visited Aden and handed over approximately 25 tonnes of essential medicines and medical equipment to Minister of Health of Yemen Qassem Mohammed Buhaybeh during a ceremony at Port Aden. The consignment, dispatched from India at the request of the Yemeni Government, was delivered by the Indian Coast Guard Ship Sujeet.

After a gap of nearly ten years, the Embassy organised Republic Day celebrations in Aden on 17 February. The event was attended by the Minister of Public Health and Population Qasem Mohammed Buhaybeh as the chief guest. The Ambassador addressed the gathering, and the Minister expressed appreciation for India's continued support. Members of the Indian community in Yemen participated in the celebrations.

Political engagement remained active. On 10 August, the Ambassador called on the Chairman of the Presidential Leadership Council of Yemen Rashad Al-Alimi in Riyadh. On 30 June the Ambassador met the Vice President of the Presidential Leadership Council Major General Aidarous Al-Zubaidi in Riyadh. Earlier,

on 9 January, the Ambassador held discussions with Foreign Minister of Yemen Shaya Mohsin Zindani in Riyadh. These meetings reviewed bilateral relations and issues of mutual interest.

An Embassy delegation led by the Deputy Chief of Mission visited Aden from 22-23 October. During the visit, the Deputy Chief of Mission met the Minister of Public Health and Population of Yemen Qasem Buhaibeh and discussed avenues for strengthening cooperation in the health sector. The delegation also met the Senior Advisor to the Foreign Minister of Yemen and Head of the Legal Affairs and Treaties Department Gamal Nasser to review bilateral relations. The delegation interacted with Yemeni businesspersons as well as representatives of the United Nations and the International Committee of the Red Cross in Aden, and attended a cultural event at the Mahatma Gandhi School.

An Indian delegation led by the Ambassador visited Aden from 24-25 November. During the visit, the Ambassador handed over approximately 67 tonnes of essential medicines to the people of Yemen. The Ambassador met the Foreign Minister of Yemen Shaya Zindani and reviewed India–Yemen cooperation in areas of mutual interest. The Foreign Minister of Yemen appreciated India's continued support, including the opening of the new building of the representative Office of India in Aden, Yemen and the recent delivery of medical assistance worth USD 2 million.

On 14 December, on the sidelines of the 11th UNAOC Global Forum held in Riyadh, the Ambassador held a brief meeting with the then Foreign Minister of Yemen Shaya al Zindani. The discussions covered the prevailing situation in Yemen and other issues of mutual interest.

Bilateral trade stood at USD 1.00 billion in FY 2024–25, as per Department of Commerce statistics. In 2025, 57 Yemeni students were granted ICCR scholarships.

Defence and Security Cooperation

Defence cooperation remained an important pillar of the bilateral partnership. 10 Yemeni cadets continued training at the National Defence Academy, Khadakwasla, and one officer attended the staff course at DSSC Wellington.

A Yemeni delegation led by the Raksha Mantri Lieutenant General Mohsen Mohammed Al-Daeri participated in Aero India 2025. On 12 February, the Raksha Mantri held a bilateral meeting with the Defence Minister of Yemen Lieutenant General Mohsen Mohammed Al-Daeri. Both sides underlined the long-standing bilateral relationship and India's continued support for capacity-building of Yemeni personnel. They agreed to enhance cooperation in military training, courses and broader defence engagements.

On 3 December, nine Filipino nationals and one Indian national, crew members of the cargo vessel MV Eternity C, which had sunk in the Red Sea in July, arrived in Muscat.

West Asia and North Africa Region

During the year, India continued to strengthen its bilateral relations with countries in West Asia and North Africa. High-level engagements included visits from Egypt, Israel and Algeria, as well as visits to Morocco, Algeria and Egypt. The inaugural meeting of the India–Egypt Strategic Dialogue was also convened. Several working-level delegations were exchanged, contributing to the deepening of cooperation across political-security, economic, cultural and people-to-people pillars. The year also witnessed the re - opened Indian Embassy in Tripoli establishing full functionality and the reopening of the Embassy of India to Somalia, after more than thirty years, with operations based in Nairobi.

Countries in the region reiterated strong support to India in its fight against terrorism. A multi-party delegation visited Egypt and Algeria following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam.

Capacity building and human resource development continued to remain central to India's engagement with several countries in the region, particularly through ITEC and ICCR scholarship programmes. In view of ongoing regional conflicts, including the

Israel–Hamas conflict and the civil war in Sudan, India extended humanitarian assistance to Palestine and Sudan.

Defence cooperation with countries in the region, especially Egypt and Israel registered further progress, with renewed focus on Algeria and Morocco. The Minister of Defence visited Morocco, during which an MoU on cooperation in the field of defence was signed, and a new plant of Tata Advanced Systems–Morocco (TASM) for the production of ground combat vehicles was inaugurated.

Algeria

The year saw the continuation of high-level exchanges and strengthening of cooperation between India and Algeria.

High Level Exchanges

EAM met the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria Ahmed Attaf in Johannesburg on 21 February on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers Meeting, and again in New York on 27 September on the sidelines of the 80th UNGA. An all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Algeria from 30 May to 2 June 2025 to convey India's position on the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and on the broader challenge of terrorism. Algeria conveyed its support to India in the fight against terrorism.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Algeria Ahmed Attaf on the sidelines of G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Johannesburg, February 2025

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Bilateral trade during FY 2024-25 stood at USD 1.71 billion, with Indian exports amounting to USD 947.04 million and imports at USD 760.06 million. A six-member delegation from the Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority visited Algeria from 23 to 27 February and held discussions with Algerian authorities in the agro-food sector. 64 Indian companies participated in the International Pharma Exhibition 'Maghreb Pharma' held in Algiers from 22-24 April. Around 30 Indian companies also participated in other exhibitions and conferences held in Algeria, while 42 Algerian companies took part in various exhibitions and conferences in India.

An eight-member delegation from the Confederation of Indian Industry visited Algeria from 4 to 10 September to participate in the fourth Intra-African Trade Fair. On the sidelines of the event, a B2B meeting was organised at the Embassy premises, which was attended by 194 Algerian economic operators. The Embassy also set up its pavilion at Intra-African Trade Fair (IATF) and at the food exhibition 'Alimentario' in Mostaganem. Visitors were offered Indian millet products, Indian snacks, and four varieties of Indian tea for tasting. Indian millet products were also displayed at the International Exhibition of Agriculture, Livestock and Agro Industry 'SIPSA FILAHA' held in Algiers.

Defence and security cooperation

Chief of Staff of the Land Forces of the Algerian Ministry of National Defence Major General Ahcene Messahel participated in the Army Chiefs' Conclave for UN Troop Contributing Countries held in New Delhi from 14-16 October. The Chief of the Army Staff visited Algeria from 25 to 28 August.

A 12-member delegation led by Minister Delegate to the Minister of National Defence and Chief of Staff of the People's National Army of Algeria General Said Chanegriha visited India from 5 to 12 February. The delegation participated in the inaugural occasion of

Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru on 10 February and held meetings with Indian counterparts. The delegation also visited defence manufacturing facilities of Bharat Forge Ltd. and Larsen & Toubro. The first India Defence Seminar in Algeria was organised in Algiers from 30 July to 1 August.

Capacity building

Two Algerian diplomats participated in the 72nd Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats and the third Global South Young Diplomats Forum conducted by the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service in New Delhi. 19 Algerian nationals attended various courses in India under the ITEC programme.

Djibouti

India values its ties with Djibouti and the partnership with Djibouti continued to strengthen during the year.

Defence and security cooperation

This year, Defence Wing was established at the Embassy of India in Djibouti. Indian Naval ships continued to make regular port calls at the Port of Djibouti under Operation Turn Round to counter piracy in the Gulf of Aden and the Red Sea region. During the year, six Indian Naval ships visited Djibouti.

Commander of the Navy of the Armed Forces of Djibouti Ahmed Daher Djama led a two-member delegation to the Africa–India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) held in April off the coast of Dar es Salaam, Tanzania.

Humanitarian Assistance

India donated 20 units of Haemodialysis machines and one RO plant, along with consumables as humanitarian assistance to Djibouti in March. A five member delegation led by the Director General of Purchasing Centre for Essential Medicines and Equipment (CAMME), Ministry of Health of the Government of Djibouti Hassan Abdourahman Elmi participated in the International Pharmaceutical and Health Care Expo (iPHEX) organised by Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India (Pharmexcil) from 4 - 6 September in New Delhi.

People-to-People Ties and Capacity Building

During the year, three Djiboutian officials and professionals benefitted from ITEC courses in artificial intelligence, counter-terrorism, and countering drug trafficking. 15 Djiboutian students availed ICCR scholarships to pursue undergraduate and postgraduate studies in India.

A 20-member cultural troupe from Djibouti participated in the 38th edition of the Surajkund International Crafts Mela held at Surajkund, Faridabad, from 7-23 February.

Egypt

India and Egypt held many high-level visits, strong trade and economic ties, and growing defence and security cooperation, further strengthening the Strategic Partnership.

High Level Exchanges

Following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Egypt expressed strong solidarity and condemned the act. The President of Egypt Abdel Fattah El-Sisi held a telephonic conversation with Prime Minister soon after the incident. EAM held several telephonic conversations with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt Badr Abdelatty. An all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Egypt from 10 to 12 June to convey India's position on Operation Sindoor. The delegation held meetings with senior leadership, including the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt, the Secretary General of the League of Arab States, the heads of parliamentary foreign affairs committees, the Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs, and representatives of the media.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt Badr Abdelatty visited India from 16 to 17 October to co-chair the inaugural India–Egypt Strategic Dialogue with the EAM.



EAM co-chaired the inaugural India-Egypt Strategic Dialogue with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt Badr Abdelatty, October 2025.

During the visit, he called on Prime Minister and met Minister of Commerce and Industry and Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers. The Minister of Health and Family Welfare and the Minister of Chemicals and Fertilizers visited Egypt from 9 to 12 November to attend the Global Congress on Population, Health and Human Development. The fourth round of the India–Egypt Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism took place in Cairo in April.

There were also high-level exchanges on the margins of multilateral engagements. In August, Prime Minister and Prime Minister of Egypt Mostafa Madbouly interacted on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Tianjin. In October, MoS(KVS) visited Egypt to attend the Sharm el Sheikh Peace Summit for signing the agreement to end the conflict in Gaza as the special representative of Prime Minister. Minister of Tourism represented India at the inauguration of the Grand Egyptian Museum on 1 November.

Ministerial interactions continued during the year. In March, the Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade of Egypt Hassan El-Khatib visited India for the Raisina Dialogue and held meetings with the Minister of Commerce and Industry, NITI Aayog and Indian industry associations. In May, the Minister of Culture of Egypt Ahmed Fouad Hano, accompanied by the Head of the Supreme Council of Media Regulations, attended the inaugural edition of WAVES 2025 and addressed the Global Media Dialogue. A bilateral meeting between EAM and the Minister for Electronics and Information Technology was also held.

In February, a delegation from the Archaeological Survey of India visited Egypt to explore cooperation in cultural heritage preservation under the bilateral MoU on Protection and Preservation of Antiquities and Heritage. In October, a high-level Indian delegation headed by Secretary (Water) participated in Cairo Water Week and held discussions with the Minister of Water Resources of Egypt on advancing cooperation in the water sector.

Implementation of the MoU on Counter Terrorism continued through the convening of the fourth round of the Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism in April in Cairo. Under the framework of the MoU on

New and Renewable Energy, the first Joint Working Group meeting between the concerned Ministries was organised virtually in March to discuss areas of cooperation in renewable energy. Cooperation under the MoU on Health was further strengthened with the holding of the second Joint Working Group meeting on Health in a virtual format on 29 September between the respective Ministries.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Economic engagement between India and Egypt continued to expand, with bilateral trade reaching close to USD 4.7 billion, making India the seventh largest exporter to and the ninth largest importer from Egypt. Indian investments in Egypt have crossed USD 4.5 billion, with TCI Sanmar's USD 1.6 billion investment constituting the single largest foreign direct investment by an Indian company in Egypt. Indian companies maintain a strong presence across diverse sectors, including chemicals, apparel, information technology and manufacturing, contributing significantly to Egypt's export base and generating employment for approximately 40,000 people. In the renewable energy sector, two Indian companies, OCIOR and ReNew, have committed to invest in large green hydrogen projects, which are expected to make significant value additions to Egypt's clean energy and sustainability objectives.

Indian commercial engagement with Egypt continued to expand throughout the year. In February, six Indian companies participated in the EGYPES Expo focused on the energy sector. 35 Indian companies led by FICCI participated in the Cairo Fashion and Tex Expo. In March, the Indian fintech firm M2P established an office in Cairo. In April, the 10th edition of the India–Africa ICT Expo was held in Cairo, co-organised by the Telecom Equipment Export Promotion Council, the Embassy, the Ministry of Communications and Information Technology of Egypt, and the Egyptian Businessmen Association, with participation of 35 Indian companies.

A four-member delegation from Indian public and private sector fertiliser companies, including HURL, FACT, RCF and the Ostwal Group, visited Egypt in April to explore long-term procurement of rock phosphate and potential investments in phosphate-based fertiliser manufacturing. The delegation met the Minister of Petroleum and Mineral Resources of Egypt. In June, the Trade Promotion Council of India and the Food Export Council Egypt organised an India–Egypt Buyer–Seller Meet to promote Indian food products. In September, 78 Indian companies participated in Pharmaconex 2025. A 20-member delegation from the Institute of Indian Foundrymen visited Cairo in September to attend the Metal and Steel 2025 Exhibition, during which the Institute signed an MoU with the Chamber of Metallurgical Industries of Egypt under the Federation of Egyptian Industries. A delegation from the Coir Board of India, accompanied by 11 Indian companies, participated in the 37th edition of the Sahara Exhibition from 13 to 16 September and met the Minister of Agriculture and Land Reclamation of Egypt.

India's cooperation with Egypt under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme continued robustly, with a customised training course on Sericulture and Silk Industry conducted in September, which was attended by 15 officials from the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise Development Agency (MSMEDA) of Egypt.

Defence and security cooperation

India-Egypt defence cooperation continued to strengthen. In February, a high-level delegation from Egypt, led by the Deputy Chief of Egyptian Air Force, attended Aero India 2025. In April, an Indian delegation composed of several defence PSUs and led by Secretary (Defense Procurement) visited Egypt to strengthen the bilateral cooperation. Indian and Egyptian forces also participated in the third edition of Exercise Cyclone, a joint exercise between Special Forces in February to enhance interoperability. Indian Armed Forces including Army, Navy, and Air Force participated in the multilateral Tri-services Exercise 'Bright Star-2025' which is co-hosted by Egypt and the US from 28 August - 10 September with more than 700 personnel.



More than 700 personnel of Indian Armed Forces including Army, Navy, and Air Force participated in the multilateral Tri-services Exercise 'Bright Star-2025' co-hosted by Egypt and the US, August 2025



Indian Armed Forces troops conducted integrated training with Mechanised Forces of Egypt, US Army, USMC, Qatar and Cyprus, achieving interoperability and seamless coordination as part of the Multilateral Joint Military Exercise Bright Star, September 2025

State of Eritrea

India and Eritrea share warm and cordial bilateral ties, rooted in historical trade links dating back centuries and strengthened by South-South cooperation.

High Level Exchanges

Foreign Minister of Eritrea Osman Saleh Mohammed condemned the Pahalgam terror attack during his interaction with EAM on 1 June in New Delhi.

A 13-member delegation from Eritrea, led by Advisor to the Minister of Agriculture, participated in the 'World Food India 2025', organised by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries in New Delhi on 25-28 September.

The third round of FOC between India and Eritrea was held in Asmara on 5 December. The consultation reviewed all facets of bilateral relations including political engagement, economic cooperation, capacity

building, health, education, renewable energy, cultural exchanges and people-to-people ties.

Capacity building initiatives continued to be the pillar of India-Eritrea bilateral relations. India has allotted 60 slots to Eritrea under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Programme for the year 2025-26. 12 Scholarships for undergraduate/ postgraduate courses have been offered by ICCR to Eritrea under the India-Africa Maitri Scholarship Scheme in 2025-26. 10 Eritrean diplomats attended the First Special Course for Diplomats from North and East African Countries at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) on 4-13 August.

Israel

The year 2025 witnessed continued strengthening and deepening of the India-Israel strategic partnership with robust cooperation in the areas of defence, innovation and technology, agriculture, water management and cybersecurity. Both countries reaffirmed their shared commitment to advancing mutual growth and security through collaborative initiatives and regular high-level interactions.

High Level Exchanges

Prime Minister of Israel Benjamin Netanyahu conveyed condolences and condemned the terrorist attack in Pahalgam over a telephone conversation with Prime Minister on 24 April. On 13 June, Prime Minister Netanyahu spoke with Prime Minister and briefed him on the prevailing situation in the context of the Israel–Iran conflict. On 9 October, Prime Minister called Prime Minister Netanyahu to congratulate him on the progress made under President Trump's Gaza Peace Plan, including the release of hostages and the facilitation of humanitarian assistance for the people of Gaza.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel Gideon Sa'ar visited India from 3 - 5 November and met EAM and the NSA. EAM and Minister Sa'ar also met earlier in the year on the sidelines of the Munich Security Conference.



Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel Gideon Sa'ar met EAM in New Delhi, November 2025

The Minister of Economy of Israel Nir Barkat led a high-level business delegation to India from 11 to 13 February. He and the Minister of Commerce and Industry co-chaired the India–Israel CEO Forum and the India–Israel Business Forum. They also met on the sidelines of the OECD–WTO Mini Ministerial Meeting in Paris on 3 June. The Minister of Tourism of Israel Haim Katz visited India from 22 to 30 January and met the Minister of Tourism.

The Minister of Agriculture and Food Security of Israel Avi Dichter visited India from 7- 10 April and held meetings with the Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and the Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution. The Minister of Finance of Israel Bezalel Smotrich visited India from 8 - 10 September and met the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Commerce and Industry. During the visit, he travelled to Mumbai and Gandhinagar and met the Chief Ministers of Maharashtra and Gujarat, respectively. He also visited the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City.

Several senior officials from Israel also visited India during the year, including Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Eden Bar-Tal in March, Deputy National Security Adviser Joseph Draznin in February, and Chief Economist Ministry of Finance Shmuel Abramzon in May.

India and Israel continued to strengthen institutional mechanisms for bilateral cooperation. The first India–Israel Cyber Policy Dialogue was held in Jerusalem in March. The 17th meeting of the India–Israel Joint Working Group on Defence was held in Tel Aviv in November.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

India and Israel took significant steps towards deepening their economic engagement. During the visit of Finance Minister of Israel Bezalel Smotrich in September, the two sides signed a Bilateral Investment Agreement (BIA), underscoring their mutual intent to create a more robust and resilient investment environment.

During the visit of Agriculture and Food Security Minister of Israel in April, both sides signed a revised agreement on cooperation in the field of Agriculture and finalised the sixth 3-Year Work Plan (2024-2027). As part of bilateral work plans, 43 Centres of Excellence have been approved across India to promote advanced agricultural practices.

Defence and security cooperation

In July, the Director General in the Ministry of Defence of Israel Major General (Res) Amir Baram visited India and met the Defence Secretary. He also called on the National Security Adviser. Subsequently, the Defence Secretary visited Israel on 4 November for the meeting of the Joint Working Group on Defence, during which both sides signed a memorandum of understanding on defence cooperation.

Operation Sindhu

India conducted Operation Sindhu on 18 June to evacuate Indian nationals from conflict zones in Iran and Israel. A total of 818 Indian nationals from Israel returned to India in four special flights, including three IAF C-17 aircraft from 23-25 June.

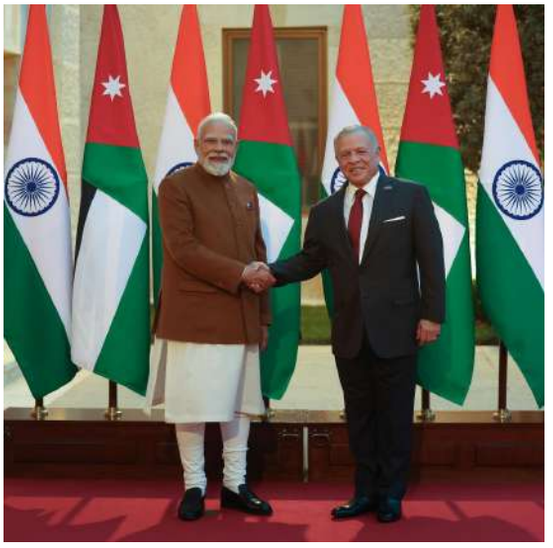
Jordan

India-Jordan relations continue to strengthen. The year 2025 marks the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

High Level Exchanges

The multi-faceted relations between India and Jordan have strengthened over the period. On 24 April, King Abdullah II and Prime Minister held a telephonic conversation during which the King condemned the terror attack in Pahalgam and conveyed condolences on the loss of lives, reiterating that terrorism must be rejected in all its forms and manifestations.

Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Jordan from 15–16 December, his first full-fledged bilateral visit to the country. The visit, which took place after a gap of 37 years, coincided with the 75th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Jordan. Prime Minister was accorded a ceremonial welcome and held discussions with King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein and Prime Minister Jafar Hassan.



Prime Minister met King Abdullah II bin Al-Hussein at the Al Husseiniya Palace in Amman, Jordan, December 2025

During the visit, the two sides undertook a comprehensive review of bilateral relations and agreed to further deepen cooperation in trade and investment, defence and security, renewable energy, fertilizers and agriculture, innovation and digital technologies, critical minerals, infrastructure, health and pharmaceuticals, education, tourism, and people-to-people exchanges.

During the visit, the two sides signed an MoU on Technical Cooperation in the Field of New and Renewable Energy, an MoU on Cooperation in Water Resources Management and Development, a Twinning Agreement between Petra and Ellora, the renewal of the Cultural Exchange Programme for 2025–2029, and a Letter of Intent on cooperation in sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation.

The fourth round of India–Jordan Foreign Office Consultations was held in Amman on 29 April, co-chaired by Secretary (CPV and OIA) and the Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan Majid Al-Qatarna. The two sides reviewed the full range of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and global developments of mutual interest.

Secretary (South) visited Jordan from 13–15 October as part of the high-level exchanges marking the 75th year of diplomatic relations. She met the Secretary General and the Director of Asia and Oceania Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates of Jordan. The visit provided an opportunity to undertake a comprehensive review of cooperation in political, economic, trade, defence, cultural and people-to-people cooperation.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

A Buyer–Seller Meet was held in September with the participation of more than 25 Indian food and agriculture companies and major Jordanian buyers. The BSM was followed by a networking session to deepen economic engagement and explore future partnerships.

The second meeting of the Joint Working Group on Cooperation in Health was held virtually in September. Discussions covered acceptance and recognition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia, regulation of pharmaceuticals, vaccines and medical devices, the Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission and non-communicable diseases.

Capacity Building

India continued to support Jordan in capacity building. Under ITEC, 50 training slots and, under ICCR, 50 scholarship slots were offered. Two defence ITEC nominees from Jordan availed training programmes conducted by the Indian Navy. A Jordanian diplomat

participated in the 72nd Professional Course for foreign diplomats organised by the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service in New Delhi from 19–30 May.

Lebanon

India and Lebanon share warm and friendly relations. The Indian leadership conveyed its wishes on the formation of the new government in Lebanon in February 2025.

India implemented several quick impact projects in different parts of Lebanon during the year, including the installation of solar street lights, renovation of a hospital, establishment of computer laboratories, and refurbishment of a sports stadium. Lebanon officials continued to participate in various capacity-building courses in India. For 2025-26, India offered 75 ITEC civilian slots and 21 ITEC defence slots to Lebanon. One Lebanese diplomat attended the 72nd Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service from 19–30 May.

In May, three Lebanese journalists, including representatives from the National News Agency, participated in the World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit in Mumbai. During the visit, a memorandum of understanding on cooperation and exchange of news was signed between the National News Agency of Lebanon and Asian News International.

On 17 September, a bust of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore was installed at the 'Garden of Greats' in the Gibran Khalil Gibran Museum in Bsharri, North Lebanon. The bust, inspired by a portrait painted by Lebanese poet, writer and artist Khalil Gibran, was inaugurated by the Minister of Culture of Lebanon Ghassan Salame.

In November, the deployment of the Indian Battalion at the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, comprising about 850 personnel, completed twenty-seven years. The battalion continued to undertake peacekeeping operations in South Lebanon and regularly conducted medical and veterinary camps, IT training programmes, and quick impact projects for the benefit of the local community.

Libya

India and Libya continued to maintain warm and friendly relations during the year. The Embassy of India in Tripoli, which was reopened in July 2024, became fully operational, and the relaxation of travel restrictions for Indian nationals further facilitated bilateral engagement.

A four-member delegation led by the Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research of Libya Imran Al-Qaib visited India to participate in the India–Arab Universities' Presidents' Conference held in New Delhi on 5–6 February. Another four-member delegation from the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Resources of Libya visited India to attend the 21st General Session of the African-Asian Rural Development Organization held in New Delhi on 21–22 February.

A seven-member Confederation of Indian Industry delegation visited Tripoli on 8–9 September and held meetings with the General Union of Chambers of Commerce and Agriculture, the Ministry of Health, the General Electricity Company of Libya, the Ministry of Tourism, the Ministry of Housing, and the Ministry of Commerce and Trade.

Capacity-building cooperation remained a key component of the partnership. A Special Course for 10 Libyan diplomats was conducted at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service from 4–13 August. A dedicated English-proficiency ITEC course was also organised for 25 Libyan officials at the English and Foreign Languages University.

Morocco

India and Morocco have traditionally enjoyed warm and friendly relations, which continued to grow during the year.

High Level Exchanges

Minister of State for Road Transport and Highways visited Morocco to participate in the fourth Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety held in

Marrakech from 17–21 February. Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship and Education participated in the third GITEX Africa in Marrakech from 14–16 April. The fifth meeting of the Joint Working Group under the MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Water Resources was held with participation of an official delegation from the Ministry of Jal Shakti from 1–6 June. The third meeting of the Joint Working Group under the India–Morocco MoU on Cooperation in Health was held virtually on 15 September.

Raksha Mantri visited Morocco from 21–23 September. During the visit, he and the Minister Delegate in charge of the National Defence Administration of Morocco Abdeltif Loudyi signed an MoU on defence cooperation.

The two Ministers jointly inaugurated the new plant of Tata Advanced Systems – Morocco for the production of the WhAP 8x8 ground combat vehicle in Berrechid.

Defence and security cooperation

A delegation from the National Defence College comprising 16 senior defence officers visited Morocco on a study tour from 1–7 June. Colonel Mustapha Hmadou from the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces (FAR) attended the 65th NDC Course on 'National Security and Strategic Studies' at the National Defence College, New Delhi from 6 January – 28 November.

INS Tamal, a Talwar-class frigate of the Indian Navy, made a port call at Casablanca Military Port from 6–9 August.

Capacity Building

More than 42 Moroccan officials participated in various training courses in India under the ITEC programme during the year. A Special ITEC Course on Green Hydrogen for Morocco was conducted at the NTPC School of Business, Noida from 3–7 February.

Palestine

India has continued its persistent support through various developmental and humanitarian assistance to the Palestinian people amidst the continuing Israel-Hamas conflict.

Projects valued at USD 40 million remained under implementation, including the Indian Super-Specialty Hospital in Jenin, the India–Palestine Centre for Empowering Women Turathi, and the Palestinian Institute of Diplomacy. The commissioning of the National Printing Press in Ramallah was completed during the year.

In addition to major projects, India completed three Quick Impact Projects in Qalqilia, Nablus and Bethlehem governorates, covering the renovation of houses, establishment of an IT Centre and development of a public library.

Capacity-building cooperation continued through scholarship and training programmes. Under the ICCR scholarship scheme, 50 annual slots are available, of which 24 were utilised by the Palestinian side. Under ITEC, 168 annual slots are allocated, with 74 utilised during the year. A specialised training course for 45 officials of the Palestinian Customs Police was conducted at Rashtriya Raksha University in August.

Somalia

India and Somalia continued to strengthen their bilateral cooperation during the year, especially in the fields of capacity building, humanitarian assistance and people to people exchanges. The leadership of both countries continued their engagements on the sidelines of multilateral fora.

EAM met the Foreign Minister of Somalia Abdisalam Abdi Ali in September on the margins of the 80th UNGA High-Level Week in New York. EAM also spoke with him in April following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam. The Deputy Minister of Environment and Climate Change Hussein Ali Haji Abdulle visited India on 16 June to attend the First Assembly of the International Big Cat Alliance in New Delhi. MoS (KVS) met the State Minister of Foreign Affairs of Somalia on 15 October on the sidelines of the 19th Mid-Term Ministerial Conference of the Non-Aligned Movement in Uganda.

Capacity building remained a key pillar of cooperation. A special course for foreign diplomats from North and East African countries was organised at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service from 4–13 August, attended by ten Somali diplomats. Two Somali media personnel participated in a familiarisation programme in India from 10–18 June.

India continued to extend humanitarian assistance to the Somali people. Ten tonnes of medicines and medical supplies including essential life-saving medicines, surgical items, hospital consumables and medical equipment were donated in September.

South Sudan

Bilateral relations between India and South Sudan continued to strengthen during the year, with capacity building and human resource development remaining central to the partnership. A 12-member delegation from the Committee on Finance and Economic Planning of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly undertook a benchmarking study tour hosted by the Lok Sabha Secretariat in February. Minister of Defence and Veterans Affairs of South Sudan Lieutenant General Chol Thon J Balok attended Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru in February.

A delegation of eight Members of Parliament from the Transitional National Legislative Assembly, led by Chairperson of the Standing Specialized Committee on Information, Communication and Technology and Spokesperson of Parliament Oliver Mori Benjamin, participated in a training course on cyber security for Members of Parliament held at the Lok Sabha Secretariat from 18 July - 1 August.

As part of the first Special Course for Diplomats from Eritrea, Libya, Somalia and South Sudan, 10 diplomats from South Sudan attended training at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), New Delhi from 4-13 August. With this, a total of 90 South Sudanese diplomats have undergone training in India so far. The Vice-Chancellor of Dr. John Garang Memorial University of Science and Technology visited India in July–August under the Academic Visitors Programme of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations.

India continued its support through developmental initiatives, including Quick Impact Projects, provision of veterinary medicines for free veterinary camps, construction of a seismological observatory, and renovation of the South Sudan Learning Centre.

India continued its focus on capacity building under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme, with over 70 training slots utilised by South Sudanese nationals during the year. In addition, 35 South Sudanese students received ICCR scholarships for higher education in India.

Sudan

Bilateral cooperation with Sudan remained steady during the year despite the ongoing conflict, with India's engagement focused on humanitarian assistance and capacity building. In March, India delivered two tonnes of high-value cancer medicines to support Sudan's healthcare system. In July, India donated 2,000 metric tonnes of rice as humanitarian assistance, reaffirming its solidarity with the people of Sudan.

In line with India's commitment to capacity-building cooperation, the Mission facilitated 72 ICCR scholarships for Sudanese students to pursue higher education in India, reflecting a significant increase in utilisation compared to the previous year.

Under prospective humanitarian assistance, preparations were underway for organising a Jaipur Foot Camp in late December. India also proposed to donate 20 haemo-dialysis machines and two RO plants to Sudan, with delivery expected by the end of December.

Syria

India and Syria continued to nurture their cooperation during the year, marked by the formation of a new government in Syria and sustained engagement in capacity building and people-to-people exchanges.

In July, an Indian delegation visited Syria and handed over humanitarian assistance comprising life-saving medicines including five metric tonnes of life-saving medicines, including anti-cancer drugs, antibiotics and anti-hypertensives. During the visit, the delegation called on the Minister of Health and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Expatriates, and held discussions with senior officials. From the Syrian side, the Director of the Afro-Asia and Oceania Division visited India in November.

India continued its partnership with Syria in the field of capacity building under various flagship programmes of the Government of India. During the year, ninety ITEC seats were offered to Syria. In addition, 25 ICCR scholarship seats were offered to Syrian students.

Tunisia

India and Tunisia have fostered a partnership rooted in mutual respect, shared values, and common interests. In February 2025, Agriculture Minister of Tunisia Ezzeddine Ben Cheikh visited India to attend the 21st AARDO Conference in New Delhi. The fifth meeting of the India-Tunisia Joint Working Group on Scientific & Technological Cooperation was held in Tunis in January, where both sides reviewed priorities and agreed to launch the fourth edition of joint R&D initiatives focusing on climate change, eco-innovation, e-health, and geospatial technology.

Economic and Trade Cooperation

Between January and July 2025, (No update from Division) total bilateral trade between India and Tunisia stood at USD 319.96 million, comprising Indian exports worth USD 237.24 million and imports from Tunisia amounting to USD 82.72 million. In May, KPIT Technologies became the first Indian IT company to establish operations in Tunisia with a Software Engineering Centre in Sfax. M/s Jakson Green was awarded an EPC contract for a 100 MW Solar PV Project in Kairouan Governorate. The Tunisia-India Fertilizers (TIFERT) joint venture, with GSFC Ltd. and CIL holding a combined 30 percent stake, reached a milestone in August with a financial restructuring plan including a USD 20 million investment from Indian partners and a debt conversion by the Tunisian side.

The 60th ITEC Day was celebrated in March with participation from over 80 alumni, including senior Tunisian Parliamentarian Tarak Rebai, while the 61st ITEC Day was marked in September with over 50 alumni and senior officials from the Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in attendance.

CHAPTER

7

Africa

Central & West Africa

During this year, bilateral relations between India and the Central and West African (C&WA) countries continued to strengthen, building on the deep-rooted partnership cultivated over decades. The year was marked by sustained engagement and high-level exchanges from both sides, including the state visit of Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji to Angola in November, the state visit of Prime Minister to Ghana in July, the state visit of the President of Angola to India in May.

Bilateral trade between India and the C&WA region during FY 2024–25 reached USD 26.3 billion, with exports totalling USD 14.48 billion and imports valued at approximately USD 11.89 billion. For this year, the bilateral trade between India and the C&WA region reached USD 25.38 billion, with exports totalling USD 9.4 billion and imports amounting to USD 15.9 billion. The India-Africa Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Business Conclave held in August, saw robust participation from the region, underscoring growing mutual interest in expanding economic and commercial partnerships. Indian investment in the region is estimated to exceed USD 40 billion. Indian companies operating across the region are engaged in sectors such as mining, agriculture, automobiles, pharmaceuticals, medical tourism, power, and energy. Several Indian companies have established assembly plants, including TVS, Mahindra, TATA, and Ashok Leyland, among others.

The region continued to benefit from India's capacity-building initiatives, including the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme and ICCR scholarships. During this year, India offered 2,106 ITEC training slots (civilian and defence) and 293 Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) scholarships for undergraduate, postgraduate, and doctoral students from the C&WA region. Additionally, the External Publicity and Public Diplomacy (XPD) Division organised a familiarisation visit to India in May for social media influencers from the region to promote stronger people-to-people and digital engagement.

Defence and maritime cooperation further expanded, with a focus on capacity-building, training, and information sharing to enhance maritime security and safeguard shared interests in the Gulf of Guinea and the broader Atlantic corridor.

Cultural exchanges also gathered momentum, with artists from the region participating in India's annual Surajkund Mela, reflecting shared cultural vibrancy. The Indian diaspora across the region continued to play a pivotal role in strengthening bilateral ties through entrepreneurship, investment, and community engagement.

Angola

India and Angola marked 40 years of diplomatic relationship in 2025. During the year, President of Angola Joao Lourenco paid a state visit to India in May after almost three decades. He held talks with Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and delegation-level talks with the Prime Minister. During the visit, three MoUs were signed, a Line of Credit (LoC) for USD 200 million was announced, and Angola formally joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA).



President of Angola Joao Lourenco held talks with Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and Prime Minister during his state visit to India, May 2025

The President of Angola Joao Lourenco invited Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and Prime Minister to participate in the 50th Independence Day of Angola in November. Following this, Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji paid a state visit, addressed the National Assembly of Angola on 10 November and also took part in the Independence Day celebrations on 11 November.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji addressed the National Assembly of Angola in Luanda, November 2025

EAM and Foreign Minister of Angola Tete Antonio met on the sidelines of the G-20 Foreign Ministers Meeting in February, in Johannesburg. Minister of State and Chief of the Military House of the President of Angola General Francisco Pereira Furtado visited India and met MoS (Defence) on 26-28 February.

Minister of Industry and Commerce of Angola Rui Miguens de Oliveira participated in the 30th CII Partnership Summit held in Visakhapatnam in November, underlining expanding trade and investment cooperation.

Director General of the Angolan National Authority for Arms Control and Disarmament José Paulo Isabel participated in the International Conference on '50 Years of the Biological Weapons Convention (BWC): Strengthening Biosecurity for the Global South' held in New Delhi, in December.



EAM met Foreign Minister of Angola Tete Antonio on the sidelines of G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Johannesburg, February 2025

India has been among the top three trading partners of Angola for some years and currently it is second after China sharing about 10 percent of Angola's external trade. India is the second largest oil importer of Angola, which accounts for 90 percent of bilateral trade. During 2024-25, bilateral trade amounted to USD 5.03 billion, an increase by 20 percent compared to 2023-24. Indian exports amounted to USD 524 million. For this year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 3.2 billion, with exports totalling USD 422 million and imports amounting to USD 2.8 billion.

Moreover, 12 ITEC slots were offered to Angola. 10 ICCR scholarship slots that were granted to Angola were fully utilized.

Benin

The re-opening of the Beninese Embassy in New Delhi in May, was one of the most significant steps in strengthening bilateral relations. The newly appointed Ambassador of Benin to India presented credentials to Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji in the same month.

Defence cooperation between the two countries has witnessed steady growth over the years. A high-level Benin Air Force delegation led by Chief of Air Staff Senior Col Hermann William Avocanh, participated in Aero India on 10-14 February, in Bengaluru. On the sidelines of the event, he held bilateral discussions with the Chief of Air Staff to explore avenues for further strengthening bilateral defence cooperation.

India is among the five top trading partners of Benin. Bilateral trade with Benin stood at USD 1,325.49 billion in 2024-25. For the current year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 618 million, with exports totalling USD 565 million and imports amounting to USD 52 million. Aimed at strengthening trade relations between the two countries, a B2B for CII's multi-sector delegation was held in Cotonou in April. More than 90 Indian owned/operated companies active in Benin, India is Benin's one of the largest investors with a total investment topping USD 1.5 billion.

ICCR offered two scholarships under the 'ICCR-Africa Scholarship Scheme' for Beninese students to pursue post-graduate courses in India. In total, 25 civilian training slots have been allotted to Benin under ITEC/ e-ITEC.

Burkina Faso

On the invitation of Speaker of Lok Sabha, President (Speaker) of Transitional Legislative Assembly (ALT) of Burkina Faso Ousmane Bougouma visited India on 24-30 November.

India-UN Development Partnership Funded Project - Niangdo Dam project - is expected to be handed over to the Burkinabe authorities by end of the year.

Burkina Faso participated in the Aero India held in Bengaluru. The bilateral trade between India and Burkina Faso stood at USD 224.82 million in 2024-25. For the current year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 344 million, with exports totalling USD 93.52 million and imports amounting to USD 250.48 million.

Burkina Faso participated in the eighth session of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Assembly held in New Delhi on 27–30 October, reflecting cooperation in renewable energy and climate action.

A 23-member CII-India Business delegation participated in the first edition of the International Investment Forum organised by the Government of Burkina Faso on 9-10 October.

Burkina Faso continued to benefit from India's ITEC Programme, Professional Courses for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD), ICCR Scholarships and tariff benefits under India's Duty-Free Tariff Preference (DFTP) Scheme. This year, two scholarships slots under ICCR and 30 ITEC slots are offered to Burkina Faso.

Cabo Verde

After the first ever Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) in 2024, the relations between India and Cabo Verde continued to grow. Cabo Verde extended support to Indian candidatures to various posts in the UN and multilateral fora.

Cabo Verde participated in the eighth Session of the ISA Assembly in October, International Conference on 50 Years of the BWC in December, and the second World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in December, in New Delhi.

A 15-member cultural troupe from Cabo Verde visited India to participate in the 38th edition of Surajkund International Crafts Mela 2025. A Business-to-Business on agro and processed food was organised in Praia with APEDA and the local Chamber of Commerce.

Cameroon

Minister Delegate at the Ministry of External Relations Felix Mbayu, attended the CII India-Africa Business Conclave in August. On the sidelines, he met MoS (KVS), on 27 August.

Minister of Public Health of Cameroon Manaouda Malachie participated in the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in December, in New Delhi.



MoS (KVS) met Minister Delegate for External Relations of Cameroon on the sidelines of CII India-Africa Business Conclave in New Delhi, August 2025

The first-ever delegation from the International War College of Yaounde, comprising 68 members, visited India as part of a study tour, on 3-12 July. General Donatien Melingui Nouma also led a delegation to attend Aero India in February, in Bengaluru.

During 2024-25, the bilateral trade stood at USD 933 million, with India's exports valued at USD 596 million and Cameroonian exports to India at USD 337 million. Indian exports registered an increase of 31.27 percent during the year, while the Cameroonian exports to India declined by 57.23 percent compared to the previous year. For this year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 619.7 million, with exports totalling USD 406.07 million and imports amounting to USD 213.66 million.

A delegation from the Ministry of Public Health of Cameroon visited India in June to participate in the second edition of the Policymakers' Visit on Indian Pharmacopoeia.

In view of the devastating floods in the Far North Region of Cameroon, India extended humanitarian assistance by sending 1000 MT of rice, medicines and other relief materials, in May.

During the year, India offered 181 ITEC training slots and three ICCR scholarships to Cameroonian nationals.

Central African Republic (CAR)

Despite the conflict between the rebel groups and the government forces in CAR which has been an impediment to all aspects of bilateral relations since 2013, the bilateral trade grew significantly from USD 65.49 million in 2023-24 to USD143.70 million in 2024-25. CAR supports India's candidature at various international fora. India has extended LoC worth USD 56.50 million to the CAR for its developmental projects.

Chad

The first India-Chad FOC was held on 13 February, in N'Djamena. Both sides discussed and reviewed

the entire gamut of bilateral relations, paving way for opportunities to collaborate in areas including trade, technology, innovation and people-to-people ties.

A senior official delegation from the Chadian Ministry of Water and Energy participated in the eighth Session of the ISA Assembly in New Delhi, in October. Follow-up engagements continued after Chad's participation in India-Africa business platforms, with Indian companies exploring opportunities under 'Tchad Connexion 2030'. Capacity-building cooperation under ITEC and ICCR remained robust.

Bilateral trade between the two countries saw a significant growth and was valued at USD 104.37 million in 2024-25. For this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 82.58 million.

During last two years, nine senior diplomats have attended a Special Training at Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), 16 Chadian professionals have attended various ITEC courses in India, 20 ICCR scholarship slots allotted to Chadian students and five students have been selected for Hindi Language Learning Course at Kendriya Hindi Sansthan Agra; a batch of 24 Chadian diplomats and senior officials underwent English language course at English and Foreign Language University, Hyderabad.

Cote d'Ivoire

The first India–Côte d'Ivoire Defence Seminar in Abidjan, in July, featured top Indian manufacturers, bolstering strategic security collaboration.

Bilateral trade surpassed USD 1 billion from January to August (up from the prior year), with Indian exports at USD 615.7 million, a 13 percent rise from USD 543.75 million in 2024. An increase in bilateral trade highlighted the expanding economic cooperation and India's growing commercial presence in Côte d'Ivoire. Key achievements included the inauguration of two Indian-managed cashew processing units and laying the foundation for Côte d'Ivoire's first Indian rubber transformation investment.

Capacity building remained a key pillar of bilateral relations, with India offering 112 ITEC training slots and 12 ICCR scholarships.

Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC)

The bilateral trade for the current year amounted to USD 477.82 million.

An All-Party Indian Parliamentary delegation visited DRC on 24-28 May as part of India's diplomatic outreach aimed at projecting India's united and unwavering stance on the fight against all forms of terrorism. The delegation held meetings with Deputy Prime Minister & Minister of Transport Jean-Pierre Bemba Gombo, Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Francophonie Therese Kayikwamba Wagner, Speaker of the National Assembly Vital Kamerhe Lwa Kanyiginya Nkingi, President of the Senate Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde Kyende, and Member of Parliament and President of Committee on Foreign Affairs of the National Assembly Berthold Ulungu.

The Permanent Secretary of Defence Major General Lukwikila Metikwiza Marcel visited India in February and met the Defence Secretary on the sidelines of Aero India in Bengaluru. The first India-DRC Defence Industry Seminar & Expo on 28-29 January, in Kinshasa, with the participation of 12 Indian defence companies marked a significant step forward in enhancing bilateral engagement in the defence sector.

Under India's capacity building programme, 32 Diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of DRC attended the second special training course at the SSIFS on 19-28 March. 13 Congolese officials visited India to attend various ITEC training programmes. An eight-member cultural group 'La Sanza Asbl' from DRC visited India from 30 September to 5 October to participate in the ninth edition of the India International Folk Festival held in New Delhi, as well as for other performances, under the sponsorship of MEA and ICCR.

Equatorial Guinea

Equatorial Guinea continued to support Indian candidature to various posts in the UN and other multilateral fora.

The first India and Equatorial Guinea FOC was held on February 10, in Malabo. It was co-chaired by Additional Secretary (C&WA), and Secretary General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Diaspora Matias Nguema Mba Medja. On the sidelines of FOC, the Additional Secretary (C&WA) handed over a humanitarian aid of anti-retroviral drugs and diagnostic kits for management of HIV/AIDS weighing around 10,000 kgs to the Minister of Health, Social Welfare and Health Infrastructures of Equatorial Guinea.

The Minister of State for Information, Press, and Culture Jeronimo Osa Osa Ecoro, participated in the World Audiovisual & Entertainment Summit held on 1-4 May, in Mumbai.

Bilateral trade between two countries stood at USD 463.32 million during the year 2024-25. In the current year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 105.7 million. During the year, India offered 42 ITEC training slots and one ICCR scholarship. Nine candidates from Equatorial Guinea have been selected so far. Further, two officers attended the ITEC Executive Programme on 'Land Governance' at Haryana Institute of Public Administration, in March. A special ITEC course on 'Computer Science and New/emerging Technologies has been approved for 22 officials of the Equatorial Guinea from 12-25 November at CDAC, Noida and the participation is under process.

Equatorial Guinea's cultural troupe 'National Ballet Ceiba' participated in the 38th Surajkund International Craft Fair in February.

Gabon

During the year, India appointing its first resident High Commissioner, who presented his credentials on 24 February, marked a significant development in bilateral relations.

Defence Minister Brigitte Okinawa participated in the Aero India in February, in Bengaluru.

For this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 522.06 million. Mission started passport and visa services in August, facilitating mostly medical, business and student travellers to India.

Five diplomats underwent training at SSIFS, New Delhi and four government personnel underwent training under various ITEC schemes. Under development assistance, India supported an agriculture project titled 'Empowering Youth and Women-led SMEs to Revitalize the Cassava Value Chain in Gabon', estimated at USD 1 million through the IBSA framework. The project commenced on 26 May.

Ghana

For the first time in three decades, the Prime Minister paid a historic state visit to Ghana on 2-3 July. Ghana President John Dramani Mahama conferred one of the highest national honours 'Order of the Star of Volta', on Prime Minister. During the visit, signing of four MoUs further cemented bilateral ties. The Prime Minister also addressed a special session of the Parliament of Ghana, becoming the first Indian Prime Minister to do so.



Prime Minister was conferred with national honour of Ghana 'Order of the Star of Ghana' by President of Ghana John Dramani Mahama, July 2025

Foreign Minister of Ghana Samuel Okudzeto Ablakwa visited India in March to participate in the 10th edition of the Raisina Dialogue, in New Delhi. Commonwealth Secretary General (CSG) and former Ghanaian Foreign Minister Shirley Ayorkor Botchwey visited India ahead of assuming her responsibilities and met EAM in March.

India is among the top trading partners of Ghana and is the largest destination for Ghanaian exports. In 2024-25, bilateral trade stood at USD 3,1 billion. For this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 4.9 billion. Indian companies are playing an important part in Ghana's economic growth with around USD 2 billion investments across 900 projects.

A 20-member cultural troupe from Ghana participated in the 38th Surajkund International Crafts Mela 2025 held at Faridabad on 7-23 February.

Guinea-Bissau

India's relations with Guinea-Bissau remained warm and friendly. Guinea-Bissau continued to support India at various multilateral fora.

Ambassador of India to Senegal, The Gambia and Guinea-Bissau represented India in the 15th Summit of Community of Portuguese Speaking Countries Summit (CPLP) held in Bissau, capital of Guinea-Bissau from 17-18 July in India's capacity as Associate Observer. Inspector General of Ministry of Energy Fernandes Silva Dojo participated in the eighth Session of the ISA Assembly on 27-30 October, in New Delhi.

Bilateral trade between India and Guinea-Bissau touched USD 204 million during 2024-25, maintaining the steady rise in the volume of trade with Guinea-Bissau in recent years. In this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 238 million.

Under capacity building, Guinea-Bissau has been offered eight slots for the year under the ITEC civilian program.

Liberia

Minister of Internal Affairs Francis Sakila Nyumalin led a delegation to the 21st Afro-Asian Rural Development Organization (AARDO) Conference in New Delhi, in February.

As part of Government of India's diplomatic outreach following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22 April, an All-Party Parliamentary Delegation visited Liberia from 31 May to 3 June. Minister of Commerce and Industry Magdalene Dagoseh attended India Maritime Week and the second Edition of Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue on 27-29 October, in Mumbai.

Liberia joined the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) and also signed the Framework Agreement in ISA. It participated in the ISA Assembly in October and the BWC Conference in December.

The first India–Liberia United Nations Consultations were held on 29–30 December in New Delhi, reflecting enhanced coordination ahead of Liberia's United Nations Security Council (UNSC) tenure in 2026-27.

India sanctioned a USD 1 million project under the IBSA Fund for South-South Cooperation (India, Brazil, and South Africa) titled 'Women Legislators in Liberia: Promoting Voice, Leadership, and Gender-Responsive Governance'.

Bilateral trade between India and Liberia has recorded significant growth in 2024-25 reaching USD 397 million, an annual increase of 55 percent. For the year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 234 million.

Liberia continues to benefit from ITEC courses and ICCR Scholarship. Liberia utilized 67 ITEC slots and four ICCR scholarships for under graduate / post-graduate studies.

Mali

India and Mali have traditionally maintained friendly relations based on shared values, mutual trust and goodwill. India and Mali continued to support each

other's candidature in various UN and international bodies. The Government of Mali issued a statement condemning the dastardly terror attack of Pahalgam in April.

On 15 October, on the sidelines of the 19th Mid-term Ministerial Meeting of Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) in Kampala, Uganda, MoS (KVS) met Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Abdoulaye Diop.

India-Mali bilateral trade touched USD 210.60 million in 2024-25 representing an increase of 41.36 percent compared to the previous year. In this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 218.38 million. Follow-up engagements continued after the CII business delegation visit to Bamako in October, particularly in economic and trade sectors.

In the defence sector, a four-member defence delegation led by Secretary General of Ministry of Defence and Veteran Affairs of Mali Major General Sidiki Samake, visited Bengaluru to participate in the Aero India show on 9-13 February and met Raksha Mantri on the sidelines of the event.

Mali continued to benefit from capacity building assistance provided by GoI. Malian citizens were offered 70 ITEC slots and 15 ICCR respectively.

Overall, the friendly relations between India and Mali continued to progress and strengthen during the year.

Mauritania

In a major development, Mauritania has opened its Embassy in New Delhi and the first-ever Resident Ambassador of Mauritania to India also assumed charge in this year.

India introduced e-Visa facility for Mauritanian ordinary passport holders, promoting tourism and business exchanges. An MoU on visa exemption for diplomatic and official passport holders was implemented this year, following Presidents' visit in October 2024, strengthening bilateral ties.

The total bilateral trade in 2024-25 stood at USD 137.46 million. For the year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 150 million. Prominent business personalities from Mauritania also attended the 20th edition of CII India Africa Business Conclave, held in Delhi on 27-29 August.

Under the capacity building initiative, one diplomat from MoFA attended the Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) conducted by SSIFS, and two candidates from Mauritania attended the ITEC training courses.

India and Mauritania continued to work closely at the multilateral fora and supported each other's candidatures to various UN and international bodies.

Niger

India and Niger maintained cordial relations and close co-operation at the international fora and supported each other when need arose. Niger has conveyed its consent to become a member of International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), an initiative from India.

Total bilateral trade in the year 2024-25 stood at USD 105.60 million with exports from India at USD 72.68 million and imports from Niger at USD 32.92 million. In this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 71 million.

India has continued to support Niger through various capacity building programmes through ITEC and ICCR scholarships. Niger was allocated 156 ITEC training slots including 10 Defence Training Slots and five ICCR Scholarships. ICCR has recently allocated six additional Scholarship slots for this academic year. Till date, 33 ITEC slots for civil training, seven Defence training slots and seven ICCR Scholarship slots have been utilised.

Nigeria

This year India and Nigeria continued to strengthen the strong, multifaceted Strategic Partnership that received fresh impetus from the State Visit of the Prime Minister in November 2024. Cooperation in sectors like space, renewable energy, defence, research & development, maritime security and intelligence

sharing, health, agriculture and food security, training & capacity building was further deepened. Both countries continued to collaborate in various multilateral fora including reciprocal support for each other's candidatures at various UN/multilateral bodies.

In February, India Corner in the Library of American University of Nigeria (AUN) in Yola, Adamawa was inaugurated.

The bilateral trade between India -Nigeria reached USD 7,132.72 million in 2024-25. In the current year, the trade amounted to USD 6.3 billion. The High Commission organised/participated in over 18 Business-to-Business (B2B) events including Business-to-Business for CII's multi-sector delegation in Lagos, inaugural edition of India Trade Expo, Lagos Chamber's International Business Conference & Expo 2025, 20th Abuja International Trade Fair.

In this year, India and Nigeria deepened their long-standing defence partnership through a series of high-level engagements. Minister of State for Defence Bello Mohammad Matawalle led a delegation to India in August, for bilateral discussions with MoS (Defence). Earlier in February, a Nigerian Air Force team led by Air Marshal H. B. Abubakar participated in Aero India. Nigerian Army officers, Major General Kevin Aligbe and Maj Gen Ademola Adedoja, attended the inaugural UN TCC Army Chiefs' Conclave in October, in New Delhi. Maritime ties also strengthened with the operational deployment of INS Tushil to Nigeria in January.

Training and capacity building remain central to the defence partnership, with 83 ITEC Defence training slots offered to Nigerian Armed Forces personnel during the current year. ICCR offered 30 scholarships under the 'ICCR Africa Scholarship Scheme' for Nigerian students to pursue under-graduate, post-graduate, and PhD courses in India. In this yera total 250 civilian training slots were allotted to Nigeria under ITEC/e-ITEC.

In February, a 20-member Nigerian cultural troupe participated in the 38th edition of Surajkund Craft Mela, for the fourth time in a row. As part of Mission's active outreach in propagating diaspora Programmes, NRI couple from the city of Port Harcourt, was amongst the winners of Bharat Ko Janiye (BKJ) Quiz and went on a 15-day Bharat Yatra including participation in Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention in January.

Republic of Congo (ROC)

Bilateral relations between India and Republic of Congo (ROC) continued to strengthen during the year. India is an important development partner of the Republic of Congo.

A four-member delegation, led by Brigadier General Ambroise Mopendza, Director General of Equipment, visited Bengaluru on 9-13 February to participate in 'Aero India' and 'BRIDGE'. The delegation also included Air Force Brigadier General Jean Baptiste Philippe TCHICAYA, Air Force Chief of Staff.

In August, a delegation from Exim Bank, the National Council for Cement and Building Materials and Promac visited the ROC regarding the Greenfield 600 TPD Rotary Kiln-based cement plant, financed through the Government of India's USD 55 million concessional Line of Credit (LoC). The delegation undertook a site visit to the cement plant on 5–6 August in Dolisie, to review the ongoing progress. On 7 August, the delegation met Minister of Industrial Development and Private Sector Promotion Nicephore Antoine Thomas Fylla Saint-Eudes.

During FY 2024-25, bilateral trade between India and the ROC showed a significant upward trajectory. The total trade increased from USD 298.42 million in 2023–24 to USD 548.58 million in 2024-25, marking a growth of over 83 percent. For this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 497 million.

India offered 10 slots (both Civilian & Defence) to Congolese nationals under the ITEC programme for the current year. ROC nominee attended the 10th Edition of the National-Level Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX-25) at Chennai during 4-6 October. ROC has also utilised one ICCR scholarship offered for the year 2025-26.

Republic of Guinea

On 7 April, Guinea signed the 'Framework Agreement on the establishment of the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)' and became the seventh country to join it along with, Nicaragua, Eswatini, India, Somalia, Liberia and Cambodia. A two-member Guinean delegation led by Chief of Staff of Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development Dia Balde, attended the first meeting of the Assembly (the apex body) of IBCA which was held on 16 June, in New Delhi.

A delegation led by Chief of Staff of Ministry of Planning and International Cooperation Fatoumata Toure participated in the 20th CII-Africa Business Conclave on 27-29 August, in New Delhi. Advisor to the Prime Minister in Charge of Trade, Industry, Foresight and Financial Resource Mobilization Thierno Illiassa Balde was also part of the delegation. India offered assistance in digital public infrastructure, agriculture, health and in other areas, allowing further investment opportunities for Indian companies in Guinea.

Bilateral trade in 2024-25 stood at USD 1.5 billion, with the trade balance in India's favour. In this year, the bilateral trade amounts to USD 1.5 billion. Rice (other than basmati), two and three wheelers, engineering goods, drugs and pharmaceuticals are major exports to Guinea, while gold, aluminum, pearls/stones/ jewellery, and cashew are main imports from Guinea. This year, the locomotives for Guinea's ambitious Simandou Project are being assembled in India.

India has offered USD 225.22 million of development assistance through LoCs for different projects in Guinea. These projects are under process. Additionally, India offers capacity building through ITEC and under Defence ITEC. ICCR scholarship for long term studies is also offered on an annual basis. 15 Guinean diplomats participated in the first Special Course for Diplomats from Central and West African Countries at organised by the Ministry at SSIFS, on 16-25 July. A 15-member cultural troupe from Guinea visited India to participate in the 38th edition of Surajkund Art and Craft Mela from 9 to 23 February.

Sao Tome & Principe (STP)

Bilateral relations between India and Sao Tome & Principe (STP) continued to strengthen during the year. STP continued to support India's candidatures to various posts in the UN and at multilateral fora.

In October, a two-member delegation from STP attended the eighth Session of ISA Assembly held in New Delhi. ISA is in the process of setting up a 50 kW rooftop solar project at the Prime Minister's Office in Sao Tome.

India continued to provide support for capacity building to STP. Diplomats from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Communities of STP; officers from the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Rural Development of STP; and auditors from the Court of Auditors of STP attended various training and executive courses under the ITEC programme of the Ministry. Officers from the Coast Guard of STP attended the National Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX), and the Maritime Law & Operations Course conducted by the Indian Coast Guard this year.

The Minister of Health of STP inaugurated the 11th International Day of Yoga which was organised at the University of STP. The Minister of Environment, Youth and Sustainable Tourism of STP and the Secretary General of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Higher Education of STP participated in the event.

In January, India provided humanitarian medical assistance of essential and life-saving medicines for the main hospital in STP. In April, India gifted six school buses to reinforce the school transport fleet of STP and make school education more accessible.

In May, two content creators from STP visited India under the familiarisation visit programme of content creators, organised by the Ministry for C&WA countries.

Senegal

The launch ceremony for the project for 'Mine Clearance for Development in Casamance' was held

on 20 May, in Ziguinchor, Casamance. The USD 1 million project is fully financed by the Government of India through the India-United Nations Development Partnership Fund. The project was launched in the presence of Minister of African Integration and Foreign Affairs of Senegal Yassine Fall, Ambassador of India to Senegal, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Senegal Aminata Maga, and Governor of Ziguinchor Mor Talla Tine. They also witnessed the formal signing of the project document. This contribution reflects India's growing partnership with Senegal to advance the Sustainable Development Goals in Senegal via South-South Cooperation.

In defence cooperation, INS Tushil visited Dakar on 3-6 January during which apart from professional and operational engagements with the Senegalese Navy, the ship crew also undertook a joint Yoga session with the Senegalese Navy personnel. Naval Chief of Senegal Rear Admiral Abdou Sene represented Senegal as the Chief Guest at the Reception held aboard the ship. Senegalese officials participated in the UN TCC Army Chief's Conclave in October and BWC Conference in December, in New Delhi.

Bilateral trade between India and Senegal touched USD 1740 million during 2024-25, registering over 10 percent growth in the volume of trade with Senegal over the previous year. For this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 1.3 billion. Under capacity building, Senegal has been allotted 28 slots under the ITEC civilian programme and 26 slots under the ITEC Defence programme. Three ICCR scholarships for UG/PG courses have also been offered.

Sierra Leone

Bilateral relations between India-Sierra Leone remained friendly and warm during the year. EAM met Foreign Minister of Sierra Leone Timothy Musa Kabba on the sidelines of the 80th UN General Assembly on 26 September.

An Indian All-Party Parliamentary Delegation visited Sierra Leone in May. The Parliament of Sierra Leone strongly condemned the Pahalgam attack and observed a moment of silence in memory of the victims. In November, India organised an exhibition 'The Human Cost of Terrorism' in November, in Freetown.

The second FOC between India and Sierra Leone was held in March, in New Delhi. It was co-chaired by Additional Secretary (C&WA) from the Indian side and Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Alan E. Logan from Sierra Leone's side. MoUs were signed in key sectors such as education, skill development and external audit. Deliberations are on for MoUs in areas including agriculture, health, education, defence, renewable energy, and mining.

In January, Joint Secretary (UNP) held DG-level discussions on UN Security Council reforms in Freetown.

A USD 990,000 project was launched under the India–UN Development Partnership Fund to support persons with disabilities in Sierra Leone, in May. In October, India shipped 15 haemo-dialysis machines, along with RO plants and consumables, as grant assistance to help Sierra Leone address the rising incidence of kidney disease.

Bilateral trade expanded by nearly 37 percent to USD 408 million in 2024-25, with Indian exports constituting approximately 95 percent of total trade. In this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 251 million. Sierra Leonean government officials continued to benefit from ITEC training programmes, with annual slots rising from 50 to 86 in 2024–25. Similarly, ICCR scholarships increased from 15 to 37 in this year.

The Gambia

Minister of Trade, Regional Integration and Employment Baboucarr Ousmaila Joof participated in 20th CII India–Africa Business Conclave held on 27-29 August, in New Delhi. Minister of Defence Sering Modou Njie and Permanent Secretary in Ministry of Defence Rohie Bittaye-Darboe participated in Aero India and 'BRIDGE- Defence Ministers' Conclave' on its margins on 10-14 February, in Bengaluru.

The bilateral trade between the two countries stood around USD 161.2 million in 2024-25. For this year, the bilateral trade amounted to USD 142.5 billion.

Under capacity building, a batch of 18 mid-level civil servants participated in the fifth Mid-Career Training Programme from 24 February to 7 March at the National Centre for Good Governance (NCGG), in Dehradun. For current training year, The Gambia was offered 15 army slots and two navy slots by the Coast Guard under the ITEC Defence program. 60 slots were offered to The Gambia under the ITEC civilian program. Under the Africa Scholarship Scheme, 33 scholarships were allocated for under-graduate/post-graduate degree courses in India.

Togo

The bilateral relations between the two countries continued to grow across multiple sectors. Togo supported India's candidatures to the UN HRC for the term 2026-2028 held on 14 October and the Postal Operations Council (POC) and the Council of Administration (CA) of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) held from 6-20 September. Togo participated in the International Conference on BWC in December, New Delhi.

The Indian Naval Ship 'Tushil' undertook an operational visit to Lomé on 10-11 January. Following the hijacking incident involving the Panama-flagged vessel Mt. Bitu River in March, the Togolese authorities extended their full cooperation to the Mission by providing updates on the developments.

In a significant development, Fertilisers and Chemicals Travancore Ltd. (FACT) and Société Nouvelle des Phosphates du Togo (SNPT) signed an agreement in February for the sale and purchase of Togo's phosphate rock. The agreement further strengthens bilateral economic ties between India and Togo and contributes to mutual growth in the agricultural and industrial sectors.

The Agreement on reciprocal Visa Exemption for holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service passports, that was signed on 27 June 2024, came into effect on 15 April this year. MoU was signed between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), New Delhi, and the Togolese Institute of Agronomic Research (ITRA), Togo on 11 September.

Between January and October, a total of 33 scholarships were utilised by Togo under ITEC civilian and defence slots for officials and ICCR's India-Africa Maitri Scholarship Scheme and ICCR's AYUSH Scholar Scheme for students. One Togolese diplomat participated in the 72nd Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) organised by SSIFS from 19-30 May. The ITEC Day was celebrated on 28 March, with participation of over 100 ITEC and ICCR alumni, senior government officials and Secretary Genaral Ministry of Foreign Affairs graced the occasion as the chief guest.

The fourth India Education Fair (Study in India) was held on 15 April, and was attended by the Minister of Higher Education and Research of Togo as the Chief Guest. More than 500 students explored academic opportunities in India during the event. A 20-member Togolese cultural troupe 'Zogbeadji' participated in the 38th edition of the Surajkund International Crafts Mela on 7-23 February.

East & South Africa

In this year, India continued to deepen its friendly relations with countries in the East and Southern African region. Continuous engagements with these countries provided impetus to strengthen bilateral cooperation in the fields of development partnership, defence, trade and economy, agriculture, commerce, art and culture, education, digital technology, renewable energy, health and medical tourism, and people-to-people exchanges.

The 20th edition of CII India-Africa conclave was organised on 27-29 August, in New Delhi. It witnessed high-level participation from East & Southern Africa Countries.

Botswana

India and Botswana enjoy warm and time-tested relations founded on shared values of democracy, development, and mutual respect. The partnership has continued to expand steadily across political, economic, developmental, and cultural domains, with this year marking several important initiatives that underscore the growing dynamism of the bilateral engagement.

Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji paid a historic State Visit to Botswana at the invitation of the President of Botswana Duma Gedeon Boko on 11-13 November. It marked the first-ever visit by an Indian Head of State to Botswana. The visit consolidated the warm and friendly relationship that exists between the two countries by opening new vistas of collaboration in areas such as trade, capacity building, health, education, renewable energy, diamond trade and beneficiation and digital transformation. The visit also helped deepen people-to-people connections between the two countries.

A notable outcome of the State Visit was the agreement on translocation of eight cheetahs presented by Botswana to India under Project Cheetah, a flagship conservation initiative of the Government of India.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji held talks with President of Botswana Duma Gideon Boko in Gaborone, November 2025

On the economic front, bilateral trade and investment linkages were further strengthened through the visits of delegations from the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) and the CII. These engagements, organised in collaboration with the Botswana Investment and Trade Centre (BITC), brought together business leaders from key sectors such as infrastructure, agriculture, water management, food processing, health, and finance. These visits provided an effective platform for identifying new avenues for economic partnership and investment under Botswana's Vision 2036.

In the aftermath of the severe floods that struck parts of Botswana, India extended HADR support amounting to USD 50,000, consisting of essential medicines and relief materials, reflecting India's commitment to be the first responder.

Burundi

The Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of National Defence and Veterans Affairs participated in 15th edition of Aero India in February, in Bengaluru.

India supported Burundi's socio-economic growth through LoC, scholarships under the ITEC programme, and collaboration in sectors such as agriculture, healthcare, education, and information technology. Bilateral trade grew, particularly in pharmaceuticals, machinery, and manufactured goods.

Eswatini

In December, Eswatini formally initiated the process of opening its resident Mission in New Delhi. So far India was concurrently accredited to the Embassy of Eswatini in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eswatini Pholile Shakantu, participated at the World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Mumbai on 1-4 May. During the visit, the Minister held a bilateral meeting with EAM. This was the first ever visit of a Foreign Minister of Eswatini ever since diplomatic relations were established in 1970.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Eswatini Pholile Shakantu on the sidelines of WAVES in Mumbai, May 2025

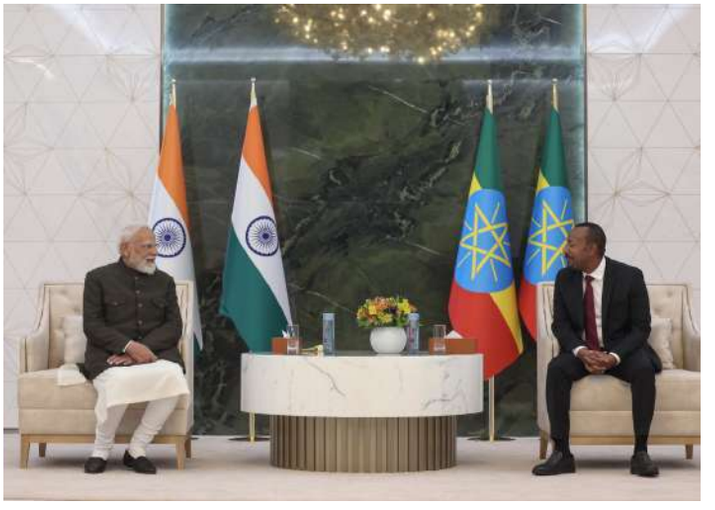
MoS (PM) visited Eswatini on 17-20 July, called on King Mswati-III and held meetings with Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamini and other ministers.

The year witnessed several visits by ministers and senior officials from Eswatini to India, including the visits of Minister of Health Mduduzi Matsebula in February, Minister of Agriculture Mandla Tshawuka in February, Minister of Foreign Affairs Pholile Shakantu in May, Principal Secretary with the Ministry of Health Khanyakweze Mabuza in June, Minister of ICT Savannah Maziya in August, and Minister for Natural Resources and Energy Prince Lonkokhela in October.

Consular camps, cultural events and outreach activities were conducted by Mission throughout the year, which strengthened people-to-people ties and partnership with the Indian diaspora. 30 ICCR scholarships were offered to Eswatini nationals for the year 2025.

Ethiopia

India and Ethiopia relations were elevated to 'Strategic Partnership' during the visit of Prime Minister to Ethiopia in December. During his visit, Prime Minister addressed a Special Joint Session of the two Houses of Ethiopian Parliament and also received 'Great Honour Nishan of Ethiopia', the highest Civilian Award of Ethiopia from the Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed Ali. Earlier, both leaders had held a meeting on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg.



Prime Minister met Prime Minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed Ali in Addis Ababa, December 2025.



Prime Minister received 'Great Honour Nishan of Ethiopia' from the Prime Minister of Ethiopia Abiy Ahmed Ali, December 2025

Raksha Mantri and Defense Minister of Ethiopia signed an MoU on Defence Cooperation on the sidelines of Aero India, in Bengaluru. It focuses on strengthening defence ties through collaboration in defence industry, cyber security, joint research and development and capacity building.

On the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Johannesburg, EAM met the Ethiopian Foreign Minister Gedion Timothewos and discussed bilateral cooperation and other issues of mutual interest, on 20 February.



EAM met Foreign Minister of Ethiopia Gedion Timothewos on the sidelines of G20 Foreign Ministers' meeting in Johannesburg, February 2025

A multi-party Indian Parliamentary delegation visited Ethiopia on 30 May-1 June. The delegation held wide-ranging discussions with Ethiopian officials, media, civil society, and the Indian community, focusing on India's zero-tolerance policy towards counter-terrorism following the Pahalgam attack and Operation Sindoor.

A 41-member Ethiopian delegation, led by Deputy Speaker of the House of Federation of Ethiopia Zahra Humed Ali visited New Delhi to participate in a special training programme at the National Centre for Good Governance.

A seven-member Ethiopian delegation, led by the Chairperson of the National Election Board of Ethiopia (NEBE), visited New Delhi on 26–30 August. They met India's Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners, and visited the India International Institute of Democracy and Election Management (IIIDEM). The visit focused on election administration, communication during elections, civic and voter education, and assessment of election technologies.

On 15 October, India and Ethiopia held their first-ever Joint Defence Cooperation meeting in New Delhi. On 12 November, the Embassy of India in Addis Ababa, in collaboration with a business delegation led by CII, organised an EXCON Roadshow in Addis Ababa. This

follows a CII-led business delegation's visit to Ethiopia on 19-21 February and meeting with the officials of Ethiopian Ministries, the Ethiopian Investment Commission, International Organisations and other stakeholders to explore trade and investment opportunities.

On 5 June, the African Union Commission joined the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI). strengthening Africa's commitment to resilient infrastructure. The announcement was made at a high-level event in Geneva. Subsequently, CDRI held a side event at the Africa Climate Summit, highlighting the need for climate-resilient infrastructure. The event featured the launch of the 'Infrastructure Resilience in Africa' report, offering risk assessments and guidance for key sectors.

On 11-12 June, a three-member delegation led by Secretary (ER) visited Ethiopia for preparatory meetings ahead of upcoming Fourth India-Africa Forum Summit (IAFS-IV). The delegation held constructive discussions with key stakeholders, including the Chairperson and senior commissioners of the African Union Commission, the Director General of Africa CDC, the Executive Secretary of UNECA, the Secretary General of the Organisation of Southern Cooperation (OSC). Secretary (ER) held meetings with Ethiopia's State Minister of Foreign Affairs and discussed issues of mutual interests. A six-member delegation from AU Commission participated in the follow-up visit on the matters pertaining to IAFS-IV held on 1-5 December, in New Delhi.

Ethiopia signed the India-led initiative 'Framework Agreement on Establishment of the International Big Cat Alliance' in June, which aims to conserve seven major big cat species: tigers, lions, leopards, snow leopards, cheetahs, jaguars and pumas.

Kenya

Former Prime Minister of Kenya Raila Odinga passed away in Kerala on 15 October, where he had been undergoing medical treatment. India extended its full support in facilitating expeditious repatriation of his mortal remains. A high-level Kenyan delegation led by Prime Cabinet Secretary and Cabinet Secretary for Foreign and Diaspora Affairs Musalia Mudavadi, travelled to India to accompany the mortal remains. Governor of Kerala laid a wreath on behalf of the Prime Minister. The mortal remains were accorded a guard of honour at Kochi airport and flown from Kochi to Mumbai by an Indian Air Force aircraft.

MoS (KVS) visited Kenya to attend the UN Environmental Assembly (UNEA-7) on 9-13 December. He met Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for Environment Deborah Mlongo Barasa and Principal Secretary for Tourism John Ololtuaa, along with meetings with Environment Ministers of other countries on the sidelines.

Minister of Women and Child Development met Advisor to the President of Kenya on Women's Rights Harriette Chiggai on 10 July, in New Delhi. MoS (Defence) visited Kenya from 22 to 24 June. Alongside Kenya's Cabinet Secretary for Defence, he jointly unveiled the India-Africa Commemorative Pillar at Taita Taveta to honour fallen Indian soldiers of World War I.

At Aero India held in Bengaluru in February, Vice Admiral held discussions with Vice Chief of the Kenyan Defence Forces Lieutenant General John M. Omenda focusing on maritime challenges, training, and information sharing. India participated in the Sea Phase of Africa-India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME25), which included a pre-sailing conference onboard INS Chennai and the installation of MITRA terminals for seamless communication among the participating navies. The Indian Coast Guard took part in Marine Pollution Exercise (MASEPOLREX25). a multinational exercise led by the Indian Ocean Commission and the Kenya Maritime Authority, to strengthen oil spill response capabilities and regional marine pollution preparedness.

Indian Navy and Coast Guard Ships made a port call at Mombasa in September, as part of a deployment under India's Vision MAHASAGAR (Mutual and Holistic Advancement of Security and Growth Across Regions). The visit concluded with a Passage Exercise (PASSEX) with the Kenya Navy, reinforcing maritime interoperability.



India and Kenya Navies conducted 'Passage Exercise' (PASSEX) after three-day port call in Mombasa, September 2025

Commander of the Kenyan Navy Major General Paul Owuor Otieno, paid an official visit to India from 29 September to 2 October. During his visit, he met the Chief of Naval Staff and Chief of Army Staff. The first International Liaison Officer representing Kenya was inducted at the Information Fusion Centre – Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) during the visit.

Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication and the Digital Economy William Kabogo Gitau visited India from 30 April to 4 May to participate in the first WAVES in Mumbai. On the sidelines, he held bilateral talks with the Minister for Railways, Information & Broadcasting, and Electronics & IT, to explore collaboration in digital governance, e-commerce and entertainment sector. A delegation led by Secretary to the Cabinet of Kenya Mercy Wanjau visited India to understand AADHAAR and digital governance systems on 18-21 November. Kenyan Cabinet Secretary for Health Aden Duale visited India on 18-19 December to participate in the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine.

The fifth India-Africa Entrepreneurship and Investment Summit was held on 17–18 July, in Nairobi, bringing together policymakers, investors, and entrepreneurs to promote innovation and inclusive growth. A 15-member multi-sectoral delegation led by Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) visited Kenya on 29-30 September.

An Indian delegation visited Kenya on 16-21 March, to conduct an on-site study and hold detailed discussions on implementing India's DigiLocker solution for Kenya. The delegation met Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication and the Digital Economy William Kabogo Gitau, and Principal Secretary for ICT John Tanui.

Development partnership and educational exchanges remained a cornerstone of bilateral relations. From 13 to 18 January, Attorney General Dorcas Agik Abuya Oduor led a delegation of 29 senior Kenyan officials to India for a Special Capacity Building Programme on Leadership and National Transformation at the National Centre for Good Governance. The programme, which included sessions on digital infrastructure, agriculture, healthcare, and governance, featured interactions with the MoS (Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions), Secretary (Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances) and other senior officials.

India and Kenya signed a MoU on Cooperation in the field of Wildlife Conservation and Management on 23 May. It aims to foster mutual cooperation in safeguarding the rich biodiversity of both countries through exchanges, capacity building, knowledge transfer and joint initiatives.

Lesotho

MoS (PM) paid an official visit to Lesotho on 21-22 July, ten years after the first-ever Ministerial visit from India July 2015. MoS (PM) called on King Letsie III, and Prime Minister Samuel Matekane. He also held bilateral meetings with Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Relations Mpotjoane Lejone, Minister of Information, Communications, Science, Technology & Innovation Nthati Moorosi, Minister of Education & Training Ntoi Rapapa, and Minister of Labour and Employment Ts'eliso Mokhosi. During this visit, India and Lesotho signed a MoU on 21 July, on Cooperation in the field of Sharing Successful Digital Solution Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation.



MoS (PM) called on King Letsie III during his visit to Lesotho, July 2025

Malawi

The President of Malawi Lazarus McCarthy Chakwera officially launched Bhabhatron-II Cancer treatment machine gifted by India to Malawi at National Cancer Center, Lilongwe on 2 July.

Former Defence Minister of Malawi Monica Chang'anamuno attended Aero India on 10-14 February, in Bengaluru. On the sidelines of Aero India, she held bilateral discussions with Raksha Mantri. Commander of the Malawian Defence Force Gen. Paul Velentino Phiri was part of the delegation that visited the National Defence College on 17 February, in New Delhi, and held discussions with the Chief of Defence Staff & Secretary, Department of Military Affairs.

A delegation from Malawi attended the third India Energy Week on 11-14 February, in New Delhi.

The High Commission organised a seminar on 'Indian Diaspora' in Malawi : Remembering Roots and Routes 2.0 on 22 February. The panelists at the seminar discussed various aspects of Indian diaspora in Malawi including historical & cultural, economic, political & democratic, inclusion and identity.

In association with Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) of India, the High Commission also organised a webinar on 'India-Malawi Hybrid Business Meet on Engineering Goods Sector' on 12 March, in Lilongwe.

A delegation from NIPL, the International Arm of National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) visited Malawi and held discussions with officials of the Reserve Bank of Malawi.

High Commissioner and the Vice Chancellor of the University of Malawi signed an MoU to establish 'India Chair', supported by ICCR, in the University of Malawi in Zomba. The High Commission organised an event on 6 June at Blantyre to felicitate lawyer Krishna Savjani for being conferred with prestigious Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA) by Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji. He is the first person to be conferred PBSA from Malawi.

The inauguration ceremony of BAPS Swaminarayan Temple in Mzuzu, in northern Malawi was held on 19 April.

Mozambique

MoS (KVS) met Foreign Minister of Mozambique Maria Manuela Lucas on the sidelines of the NAM Midterm Ministerial meeting on 16 October, in Kampala. They

reviewed bilateral cooperation on wide ranging areas of cooperation including agriculture, capacity building and Information Technology. MoS (KVS) visited Mozambique for its 50th Independence Day celebration on 22-26 July. During the visit, he met Foreign Minister Maria Lucas and discussed ways to further strengthen bilateral relations. MoS and Mozambican Health Minister inaugurated the Jaipur Foot Camp at the Central Hospital in Maputo.



MoS (KVS) held talks with the Foreign Minister of Mozambique Maria Manuela Lucas on the sidelines of NAM Mid-term Ministerial meeting in Kampala, October 2025

Secretary of State for Trade of Mozambique Antonio Grispos attended the CII Partnership Summit held in Visakhapatnam on 14-15 November. On the sidelines, he met Minister of Commerce and Industry and discussed bilateral relations.

Indian Army delegation visited Mozambique and successfully installed India-gifted Infantry Weapons Training Simulator/IWTS at the Army Practicing School on 29 April, in Manhica. INS Sunayna visited Nacala in northern Mozambique, on 17-19 April. India's First Naval Training Squadron - INS Tir, INS Shardul, INS Sujata and ICGS Sarathi - visited Maputo in September, and ICGS Sachet visited Maputo in October. Joint training with Mozambican Navy personnel included VBBS training, underwater diving operation, joint firefighting exercise, and EEZ surveillance of Mozambican waters.

Permanent Secretary for Defence Casimiro Mueio attended Aero India in February, in Bengaluru. He attended the IORA Defence Ministers Conclave and held talks with the High Commission in collaboration with the Chamber of Commerce of Mozambique organised a business round table on 25 March. High Commistion of India organised a business roundtable in Beira, which was attended by about 100 Indian and Mozambican businessmen. Indian companies participated in the Mozambique International Health Expo & Summit in July and more than 15 Indian companies participated at the Maputo International Trade Fair on 25-31 August.

Secretary (ER) visited Maputo from 14 to 16 January to attend the inauguration ceremony of President Daniel Chapo. He met the Chairman of the Board of Directors of Mozambican Railways and Ports and also addressed the Indian community in Maputo. A delegation from the Ministry and EXIM Bank visited Mozambique on 1-4 September, called on the Finance Minister and held meetings at the Finance Ministry and Road Development Agency. An 18-member business delegation led by CII visited Maputo on 24-25 November. During the visit, India-Mozambique Business Forum meeting was held, and the delegation met Secretary of State for Trade, Secretary of State for Land & Environment, Permanent Secretary for Health and visited Beluluane Industrial Park.

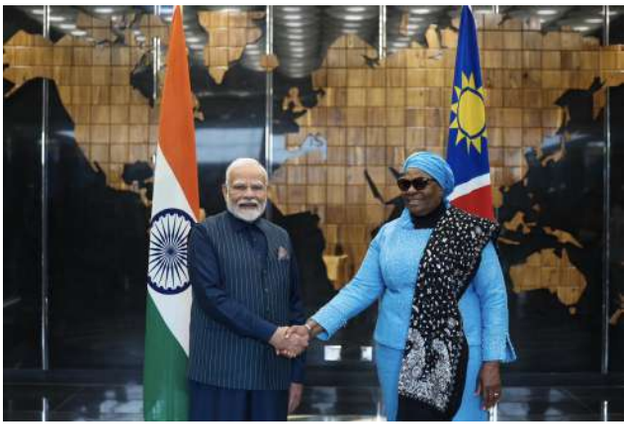
MEA sponsored a Jaipur foot camp at the Central Hospital in Maputo. 1,230 beneficiaries were provided with free limbs including 633 first time users. The approved donation of medicines and medical/surgical equipment worth USD 1 million to Mozambique.

India provided 63 scholarships to Mozambican students in this year including 59 ICCR scholarships, two quad scholarships and two Ayush scholarships.

Namibia

Prime Minister visited Namibia on 9 July, for the first time in 27 years, boosting bilateral relations between the two countries. He held talks with President Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah, and delivered an address at the National Assembly of Namibia. He was conferred Namibia's highest Civilian Award 'The Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis'. Two MoUs on cooperation in health and on setting up of

the India-Namibia Entrepreneurship Development Centre were signed. Namibia joined the CDRI, Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), and it joined the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) as an Observer.



Prime Minister held talks with President of Namibia Netumbo Nandi-Ndaitwah in Windhoek, July 2025



Prime Minister was conferred Namibia's highest Civilian Award 'The Order of the Most Ancient Welwitschia Mirabilis', July 2025

Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change met Minister of Environment, Forest and Trade Indileni Daniel, on 25 July, on the sidelines of the COP 15 of the Ramsar Convention of Wetlands held in Zimbabwe. A delegation from the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change (MoEFCC) visited Namibia from 27 to 30 July. The delegation discussed the action plan for relocation of Cheetahs as part of the second phase as per the agreement signed in the field of Wildlife Conservation and Sustainable Biodiversity Utilization signed in July 2022.

Secretary (Department of Atomic Energy) met Chairperson of Atomic Energy Board of Namibia Sitaleni Herman, on 17 September, in Vienna, on the sidelines of the General Conference and had discussions on cooperation between India and Namibia in the field of nuclear energy. The third meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Geology and Mineral resources was held on 30 September.

A delegation from Department of Commerce visited Windhoek from 24-26 April to discuss India-SACU Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).

A three-member delegation of the Electoral Commission of Namibia led by its Chairperson Elsie T. Nghikembua visited New Delhi on 23-26 January, to attend the International Conference on the theme '2025: A Global Election Year - Reiteration and Reclaiming of Democratic spaces' organised by the Election Commission of India. She also held discussions with the Chief Election Commissioner of India on boosting bilateral cooperation in the field of elections.

Naval Ship INS Tushil, India's newest missile frigate, made a port call to Walvis Bay on 21-23 January, marking the fifth Indian Naval Ship to visit Namibia in recent years.

Rwanda

Minister of Youth & Arts of Rwanda Utumatwishima Jean Nepo Abdalla visited Mumbai on 1-3 May to attend the WAVES Summit. On the sidelines, Minister Abdallah met MoS (Information and Broadcasting, and Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs).

Minister of State of Education of Rwanda Claudette Irere officially launched the 'AIM for Change: Advancing Rwanda's Midwifery to Accelerate the Realization of Zero Preventable Maternal Deaths through South-

South Cooperation' project on 20 May. The project is being funded by India through a USD 1 million grant from the India-UN Development Partnership Fund.

An eight-member multi-sectoral delegation from the CII visited Rwanda on 24-25 November. During their visit, the delegation participated in the Equity Bank of Rwanda's Trade and Investment Roadshow, met Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Trade and Industry Antoine Marie Kajangwe and Permanent Secretary of Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Resources Olivier Kamana.

A 10-member multi-sectoral delegation from FICCI visited Rwanda on 9-10 December. During their visit, the delegation held an interactive session with CEO of Rwanda Development Board (RDB) Jean Guy-Afrika and Director General of Trade and Investment of Ministry of Trade and Industry Doreen H. Ntawebasa.

Rwanda joined the IBCA by signing the Framework Agreement of IBCA on 9 July.

The High Commission in Kigali organised the first India-Musanze Investment Forum on 20 February. Governor of the Northern Province and Claudien Nsengimana & Mayor of Musanze Maurice Mugabowagahunde joined the High Commissioner in addressing the Forum. In collaboration with FICCI, RDB and PSF Rwanda, the High Commission organised India-Rwanda Business Forum on 10 December.

South Africa

Leaders' and Ministerial meetings under South Africa's chairship of G20 Summit

Prime Minister participated in the 20th G20 Summit on 22-23 November, in Johannesburg. He held talks with President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa on the sidelines of the Summit, and reviewed the facets of India-South Africa bilateral relations. Discussions included boosting commerce, investment, technology, skilling, AI, critical minerals, food security, culture and skills training. On the margins of the G20 Summit, Prime Minister attended the IBSA Leaders' Meeting on 23 November.



Prime Minister held talks with President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, November 2025

EAM visited Johannesburg to attend the G20 Foreign Ministers Meeting on 20-21 February. On the sidelines, he called on President Cyril Ramaphosa. MoS (PM) attended the G20 Development Ministers' Meeting (DMM) held in Skukuza, Kruger National Park on 24-25 July. On the sidelines, he held talks on the bilateral issues with the Minister in the Presidency for Planning, Monitoring & Evaluation Maropene Ramokgopa. A delegation led by Minister for Power and Housing attended the G20 Energy Transitions Ministerial Meeting (ETMM) on 9–10 October. A delegation led by Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change attended the G20 Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group (ECSWG) Ministerial Meeting on 16-17 October. A delegation led by Minister of State for Commerce and Industry attended the G20 Trade and Investment Ministerial meeting (TIWG) on 9–10 October. A delegation led by Deputy Chairman of Rajya Sabha participated in the 11th G20 Parliamentary Speakers Summit (P20) on 1-3 October at Kleinmond, Western Cape Province, South Africa. A delegation led by Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister attended the Ministerial Meeting of the G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group on 13 October.

Other engagements

Minister of Trade, Industry and Competition of South Africa Parks Mpho Tau, led a delegation to India for the 20th CII India-Africa Business Conclave on 26-29 August. During his visit to India, he held talks with the Minister of Commerce and Industry.

In the aftermath of the terrorist attack in Pahalgam and subsequent Operation Sindoor, a nine-member all party Parliamentary delegation visited South Africa on 27-30 May. The delegation held meetings with the Deputy Chairperson of the National Council of Provinces, Deputy Minister in the Presidency, Members of the Portfolio Committee on International Relations & Cooperation and leaders of African National Congress (ANC) party and Democratic Alliance (DA) party.

A delegation from the Supreme Court of India visited South Africa to participate in the Heads of Constitutional Courts and Supreme Courts of the G20 members on 2-5 September, in Johannesburg.

Defence Secretary led a nine-member delegation to the ninth Joint Defence Committee meeting held on 23-24 June, in Johannesburg. The two sub-committees on Defence Policy and Military Cooperation, and Defence Acquisition, Production, Research and Development reported the outcome of the discussions to the Joint Defence Committee (JDC). Both sides also agreed to further strengthen the existing cooperation in Defence and Defence Production.

The High Commission hosted the India-South Africa Business Conclave in Pretoria on 10 March. The event witnessed the participation of more than 200 entrepreneurs from both countries. An MoU on business cooperation was signed between the South African Chamber of Commerce and Industry (SACCI) and the CII India Business Forum at the Conclave.

Pretoria also hosted the second India-South Africa Joint Working Group Meeting on Information, Communications and Technology in March, the second session of the Joint Working Group on Trade and Investment between India and South Africa in April, the second India-South Africa Consular Dialogue in May, and the 14th Joint Committee Meeting on Science, Technology and Innovation Cooperation between India and South Africa in July.

The High Commission hosted the PIO-Connect Event on 25 August, in Pretoria. The aim of this event was to further strengthen relations with the PIO community in both business and community affairs.

Tanzania

Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Energy Doto Biteko participated in the India Energy Summit in New Delhi. Minister for Defence and National Service Stergomena Lawrence Tax attended the Aero India in February, in Bengaluru. Minister of Information, Culture, Arts and Sports Palamagamba Kabudi participated in the first WAVES 2025, in Mumbai.

In April, India and Tanzania co-hosted the inaugural Africa-India Key Maritime Engagement (AIKEYME) in Dar es Salaam. Ten African Countries joined this exercise, demonstrating shared commitment to a safe,

secure, and open Indian Ocean Region under India's MAHASAGAR Vision. MoS (Defence) visited Tanzania during the exercise. Further, the third Bharat Defence Expo was held in Dar es Salaam in the same month.

India provided 999 ITEC and 85 ICCR scholarships to Tanzania nationals in 2024-25.

Uganda

MoS (KVS) visited Uganda on 15-17 October. He participated in the 19th Mid-Term Ministerial Meeting of the NAM held in Kampala on 13-16 October, called on President of Uganda Gen Yoweri Kaguta Museveni and met Minister of Foreign Affairs Gen Jeje Odongo. He also held several bilateral meetings with the heads of delegations of countries which participated in the NAM Ministerial Meeting.



MoS (KVS) participated in the 19th Mid-Term Ministerial Meeting of the NAM held in Kampala, October 2025

Minister of Trade, Industry and Cooperatives Francis Mwebesa and Minister of State for Investment and Privatization Evelyn Anite participated in the 20th CII India–Africa Business Conclave held on 27–29 August, in New Delhi.

Uganda's Minister of State for Finance, Planning and Economic Development (Planning) Amos Lugoloobi visited India to attend the 18th Plenary Meeting of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes held on 2-4 December, in New Delhi.

Secretary (West) attended the Senior Officials' Meeting of the 19th Midterm Ministerial Meeting of the NAM held on 13-14 October, in Kampala. He also held a bilateral meeting with Permanent Secretary for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Bagiire Vincent Waiswa.

The third meeting of the India-Uganda Joint Trade Committee was held on 25-26 March, in New Delhi, where issues of bilateral interest for enhancing trade cooperation and investment were discussed.

The High Commission organised 'India Trade Show & Exhibition' on 20 March, with Uganda's Minister of State for Trade Wilson Mbasu Mbadi as the Chief Guest. 17 companies importing goods from India showcased their products. Kampala City Traders Association, Uganda Manufacturers' Association and Senior officers from the Ministry of Trade participated in the event.

Zambia

In February, Minister of Defence Ambrose Lwiji attended Aero India in Bengaluru. He held a meeting with Raksha Mantri, focusing on enhancing defence cooperation between the two countries.

Zambia and India's EXIM Bank signed a debt restructuring deal in May, involving USD 335 million of debt. The restructuring reduced interest rates and stretched repayment periods to ease Zambia's debt burden.

On 18 July, an MoU on Promotion of Cooperatives was signed between India and Zambia, marking a new step in enhancing partnership in the cooperative sector.

On 21 July, an MoU between the CII and the Technical Education, Vocational and Entrepreneurship Training Authority (TEVETA) of Zambia was signed to promote collaboration in skills development and vocational training.

On 23 July, the First India–Zambia Joint Working Group on Health was convened virtually, further strengthening cooperation in the health sector between the two countries.

Government of Zambia and Akums Drugs and Pharmaceuticals Ltd (Akums), an Indian contract development and manufacturing organisation signed

a Framework Agreement on 22 August, to set up a state-of-the-art pharmaceutical manufacturing facility to be located in the Lusaka South Multi Facility Economic Zone.

In April, medical equipment valued at USD 1 million was handed over to the Ministry of Health of Zambia. The equipment was installed by Indian technicians at 24 locations across all 10 provinces of Zambia. Basic operational training was provided to Zambian health professionals to ensure sustainable use and maintenance of the systems.

A team from Geological Survey of India (GSI) visited Kasempa region from 25-29 June, for mapping and exploration of the sites provided by the Zambian side under the MoU for cooperation in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources. The Zambian government has allocated an area of approximately 9,000 square kilometers to India for mapping and exploration.

In collaboration with CII, the High Commission of India organised India-Zambia Multi-Sectoral Business Forum meeting on 28 November, in Lusaka. Around 110 business persons from Zambia's various sectors attended the Forum.

India gifted 500 sewing machines and 100 embroidery machines to Zambia's First Lady's Office including on 14 October. The handover ceremony took place in Lusaka, with First Lady Mutinta Hichilema expressing gratitude, highlighting the donation as a symbol of the strong bilateral relations between Zambia and India.

Zimbabwe

A delegation led by Minister of Defence and War Veteran Affairs Oppah Muchinguri-Kashiri, attended Aero India in Bengaluru. She held talks with Raksha Mantri, and also signed a MoU on Cooperation in the field of Defence between India and Zimbabwe. She was also the chief guest for the Maiden Mini Defence Expo and Industry Interaction organised by the Ministry of Defence, in association with the Ministry of Defence of Zimbabwe and Strategic Research and Growth Foundation (SGRF) India, on 21 March.

During his visit on 26-29 June, MoS (KVS) called on President of Zimbabwe Emmerson Mnangagwa, Foreign Minister Amon Murwira and Minister for Environment Wildlife and Climate Change Evelyn Ndlovu.

Vice President of Zimbabwe Gen (Retd) CGDN Chiwenga led a delegation to India to participate at Global Investment and Tourism Expo and 'Chalo Zimbabwe' organised by Southern Gujarat Chamber of Commerce & Industry (SGCCI) on 22–25 August, in Surat. Deputy Minister for Industry and Commerce Raj Modi accompanied the Vice President during this visit. Zimbabwe signed an agreement with Veer Narmad South Gujarat University to roll out vocational and sector-specific training for local youths.

Vice President of Zimbabwe Gen (Retd) CGDN Chiwenga led a delegation and was Guest Speaker at the 20th CII India Africa Business Conclave on 27-29 August, in New Delhi. Deputy Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development Vangelis Peter Haritatos; Deputy Minister of Energy and Power Development Yeukai Simbanegavi; Deputy Minister of Higher and Tertiary, Science and Technology Development S. Sibanda were also part of Zimbabweian delegation at the CII-Africa Conclave.

Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change visited Zimbabwe (Victoria Falls) on 23-25 July to participate in the COP15 to the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands. On the sidelines, he held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa. He also met the Secretary General of Ramsar Secretariat, Executive Director of Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS), and Secretary-General of Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES).

Deputy Minister of Industry and Commerce Raj Modi led a delegation to Madhya Pradesh Global Investors' Summit on 24-25 February. He also led a four-member delegation to the India and Zimbabwe India Trade Conference, Kerala from 27 August to 3 September.

Deputy Minister of Lands, Agriculture, Fisheries, Water and Rural Development Davis Marapira, visited India to participate in World Food India on 25-28 September, held in New Delhi.

A 15–member Indian business delegation led by FICCI participated in the 65th edition of the Zimbabwe International Trade Fair (ZITF) in Bulawayo.

CHAPTER

8

Europe and the European Union

Central Europe

Albania

India and Albania continued to maintain positive, friendly, and forward-looking relations in 2025, marked by enhanced engagement across various spheres. Deputy Minister of Economy, Culture and Innovation of Albania Olta Manjani, visited India in February. She addressed the PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry on 13 February and participated as a speaker at the ET Now Global Business Summit on 15–16 February. During her visit, she held interactions with Indian stakeholders to promote trade, cultural linkages and tourism cooperation.

In the area of capacity building, an Albanian diplomat participated in the Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) on 18–31 May.

The Director of the Ministry of Health & Social Welfare of Albania Aida Mici participated at the second WHO Summit on Traditional Medicine held on 17-19 December, in New Delhi. As part of ongoing media engagement and people-to-people exchanges, two journalists from Albania participated in a familiarisation programme in India from 28 October to 6 November.

Austria

The Enhanced India-Austria Partnership was further strengthened during the year, through exchanges and closer cooperation across wideranging areas including trade and economy, technology and innovation, education and people-to-people ties.

EAM held a telephone conversation with Federal Minister for European and International Affairs of Austria Beate Meinl-Reisinger, on 14 May. They also met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly on 27 September, in New York.

The Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs visited Austria from 9-10 April. During the visit she called on Federal Chancellor Christian Stocker, met Federal

Minister for European and International Affairs Beate Meinl-Reisinger and Federal Minister of Finance Markus Marterbauer, Federal Minister of Economy, Energy and Tourism Wolfgang Hattmannsdorfer, and also co-chaired a round table, with Austrian businesses. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas visited Vienna from 8-10 July for the ninth OPEC International Seminar.

The Ambassador of India to Austria addressed the 39th Alpbach Finance Symposium on 9 October. Austrian Business delegations from the Automotive sector visited India in March. Business delegations also participated in India Soft International IT Exhibition and Conference and Tamil Nadu Global Startup Summit in March, and October, respectively. Austria's Global Incubator Network selected seven Indian Start ups and facilitated their travel and meetings with the startup ecosystem of Austria to increase interaction.

The eighth India-Austria FOC was held in Vienna on 12 December. The Consultations were co-chaired by Secretary (West) and Secretary General, Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs Nikolaus Marschik. The two sides undertook a comprehensive review of the entire gamut of bilateral relations and cooperation at international and multilateral fora and exchanged views on India-EU relations as well as other regional and global developments of mutual interest.

Bulgaria

Bilateral relations between India and Bulgaria remained cordial and constructive and enhanced cooperation in areas such as trade, education, science and technology, culture, and tourism.

A business delegation led by Federation of Indian Export Organisations visited Bulgaria in June, and held meetings with India-Bulgaria Business Chamber of Commerce and various other major business groups. ICCR sponsored Odissi dance troupe performed in different Bulgarian cities namely, Kyustendil, Sofia, Varna and Burgas from 13-17 August. World-renowned Indian classical music troupe-Maharaj Trio performed in various cities of Bulgaria like Pernik, Sapareva Banya, Sofia and Plovdiv in September.

Croatia

2025 was a landmark year in the India-Croatia relations. The first ever visit to Croatia by any Indian Prime Minister took place on 18 June when he visited Croatia at the invitation of Prime Minister of Croatia Andrej Plenković. Both the leaders had a comprehensive exchange of views on further advancing bilateral relations, India-EU strategic partnership and cooperation in multilateral fora. Prime Minister met President of Croatia Zoran Milanović and attended a ceremonial dinner hosted by Prime Minister Andrej Plenković. During the visit, four agreements were signed in the field of Agriculture, Science and Technology, Cultural Exchange Programme and Hindi Chair at the University of Zagreb.



Prime Minister met President of the Republic of Croatia Zoranc Milanovic in Zagreb, June 2025.

On 22-23 April, Secretary (Commerce) paid an official visit to Croatia and held bilateral talks with State Secretary for Foreign Trade and Development, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs Zdenko Lucić, and State Secretary at the Ministry of Economy of Croatia Ivo Milatić.

Under the cultural exchange program between India and Croatia, a six-member ICCR-Sponsored Kathak group visited Croatia on 19-29 August, to participate in the International Folklore Festival Split and Spancirfest Festival Varazdin. The Group had performances in the city of Split, Maria Bistrica,

Ludbreg, Varazdin, and Osijek with 10 performances and three workshops attended by over 4,000 people.

Member of the Croatian Parliament Zvonimir Troskot, visited India from 10-20 December under the Distinguished Visitors Programme of ICCR and experienced India's political, institutional, cultural and human dimensions.

Sandra Carić Herceg, journalist from Nacional Weekly Magazine attended a familiarization visit to India organized by XP Division from 28 October-6 November.

At the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine held in New Delhi from 17-19 December, the Prime Minister conferred the Prime Minister's Yoga Award upon Yogacharya Jadranko Miklec of Croatia, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the promotion and development of Yoga.

Cyprus

Prime Minister paid an official visit to Cyprus on 15-16 June, the first visit by an Indian Prime Minister in over two decades. During the visit, he held atête-à-tête meeting with the Cypriot Prime Minister, delegation-level talks, and a roundtable interaction with business leaders from Cyprus and India. Prime Minister was also conferred Cyprus' highest civilian honour, the "Grand Cross of the Order of Makarios III," by President Nikos Christodoulides. A Joint Declaration on the Implementation of the Comprehensive Partnership was issued during the visit. Subsequently, India-Cyprus Joint Action Plan (2025-2029) was approved by EAM and Foreign Minister of Cyprus.

Foreign Minister of Cyprus Constantinos Kombos paid an official visit to India on 29-31 October, marking the first such visit by a Foreign Minister from the country to India. During his visit, he met the EAM on 30 October and held delegation-level talks. The Ministers reviewed progress on the implementation of the Joint Action Plan 2025-29, envisaged under the Joint Declaration issued during the Prime Minister's visit to Cyprus in June. During his visit, the Foreign Minister Kombos participated in the 55th Sapru House Lecture and delivered a keynote address titled "Cyprus and the World" at the Indian Council of World Affairs.

The two Ministers also met on the sidelines of 80th UNGA High-Level Week on 24 September, in New York. Post the Pahalgam terror attack, Foreign Minister Kombos had a telephonic conversation with EAM on 29 April where he condemned the terror attack and expressed solidarity with India. The two Foreign Ministers again held a telephonic conversation on 30 May and discussed ways to enhance cooperation, and exchanged views on advancing EU-India relations, especially in the context of Cyprus' upcoming Presidency of the EU Council.

Deputy Minister for Research, Innovation and Digital Policy Nicodemos Damianou, attended the ICC Global Business Summit 2025 along with a business delegation on 18–20 September, in Mumbai.

A parliamentary delegation of the Republic of Cyprus led by the President of the House of Representatives Annita Demetriou, visited India on 24–28 November. The delegation consisted of three Members of Parliament from different parties and senior officials from the House of Representatives of the Republic of Cyprus. During the visit, President Demetriou called on Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, met Hon'ble Vice President, EAM and Speaker of Lok Sabha. The delegation also held meetings with the Chairman and members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of Lok Sabha.



The Cypriot Parliamentary delegation led by President of the House of Representatives of Cyprus Annita Demetriou met EAM during their visit to India, November 2025.

The Defence and Security Cooperation has strengthened with the signing of a Bilateral Defence Cooperation Programme (BDCP) for 2025 in Nicosia on 23 January. A Cypriot delegation led by Anna Aristotelous, Permanent Secretary of the Defence

Ministry of Cyprus, participated in Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru on 10–14 February. A delegation led by Secretary (Defence Production), Ministry of Defence, along with defence PSUs, visited Cyprus from 11–13 September.

Greece

With Greece's entry into the Security Council in January, and as a follow up to a decision taken during the visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic George Gerapetritis to India on February, the second round in February the second round of consultations on UN and UNSC matters were held in June in Athens.

The inaugural India-Greece Maritime Security Dialogue was held on 11 December in Athens, Greece. The Indian delegation was led by the Joint Secretary (D&ISA) and the Greek delegation was led by Political Director and Ambassador Andreas Fryganas, and Head of the Task Force for UNSC, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Maria Theofili.



Foreign Minister of Greece George Gerapetritis with EAM during his official visit to India, February 2025.

Defence cooperation activities also continued with 110 strong IAF contingent participation in the Greek multinational exercise INIOCHOS in April. Chief of Air Staff, visited Greece on a bilateral visit from 23-26 June. A bilateral naval exercise in the Eastern Mediterranean was held with Greece during the visit of INS Tamal in August. The new mechanisms established as part of the collaboration between SEV (Greece)-Indian Chamber of Commerce, to assist entry of businesses in each others' markets started functioning.

Greece's leading airline Aegean Airline and IndiGO Airlines entered into a code share agreement on 15 September as part of the decision of the two airlines to commence direct flights between the two countries under the aegis of the Air Services Agreement signed on 27 November 2017 between the Government of India and the Government of the Hellenic Republic.

Principality of Liechtenstein

The India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) signed in 2024, came into effect on 1 October 2025. Liechtenstein is also a member of European Free Trade Association (EFTA). Foreign Minister of Liechtenstein Dominique Hasler visited India for the inauguration of the EFTA Desk on 10 February, and met the Minister of Finance and the Minister of Commerce and Industry. She again visited India on 19 March to participate in the Raisina Dialogue and met with EAM on the margins. Hereditary Prince Alois met MoS (IC), Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, on 23 January in Davos, Switzerland on the sidelines of World Economic Forum (WEF).

Liechtenstein organized an investment promotion event titled 'From Agreement to Action' to advance the India–EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement on 4 November. Liechtenstein's Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Sabine Monauni and the Ambassador of India to Switzerland participated in the event.

Malta

The traditionally close and friendly relations between India and Malta continued to gain momentum during the year. This year marked the 60 years of the establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Malta.

High Commission of India in Valletta celebrated 60 years of India-Malta diplomatic relations at the National Day celebrations on 31 January which was attended by the President of Malta Myriam Spiteri Debono and Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism Ian Borg.

A Rajasthani Folk Song and Dance Group, sponsored by ICCR, performed on 7-8 August in Malta. An eight-member Maltese troupe named Kantera participated in the ninth India International Folk Festival from 29 September to 10 October, in India. This was the first ever participation from Malta in Festivals in India organised by ICCR.



President of Malta Myriam Spiteri Debono and Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism Ian Borg participated in the celebrations commemorating 60 years of India-Malta diplomatic relations, January 2025.

Malta hosted the UN Conference on National and Regional Counter-Terrorism Strategies in March and the High Commissioner represented India at the conference.

The then Chief Justice of India represented India in the 24th Commonwealth Law Conference held on 5-9 April in Malta. He also visited the IMO Maritime Law Institute (IMLI) where two officers from India also completed Masters courses.

For the first time, a Maltese diplomat joined the Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats course at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service. The High Commission also facilitated academic exchanges and collaborations between Universities in India and Malta.

Focusing on technology, to harness the synergies between India and Malta in ICT and Fintech sectors, 'India Means Business 2.0' event was organised on 12 March. In collaboration with the Coffee Board of India, the High Commission of India in Valletta organized an Indian Coffee Promotion event, on 11 June, with participation of coffee importers from Malta and coffee exporters from India.

The second edition of Indian Film Shows was organised on 11-12 April in Valletta and on 6 June in Gozo.



Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of North Macedonia organized a reception commemorating the 30th anniversary of the establishment relations in Skopje, December 2025.

North Macedonia

Bilateral relations between India and the Republic of North Macedonia remained cordial and witnessed further expansion during 2025, marked by exchanges of greetings between leaders of both the countries. Both countries continued to strengthen their engagement through collaboration in trade, education, culture, and information technology. Cultural exchanges and participation in each other's national events further contributed to fostering people-to-people contacts and mutual understanding.

India-North Macedonia celebrated the 30th anniversary of the establishment of their diplomatic relations. On this occasion, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of North Macedonia organized a reception on 18 December in Skopje.

Moldova

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mihai Popsoi visited New Delhi on 17-19 March and met with EAM on the sidelines of Raisina Dialogue.

Moldova's ratification of the International Solar Alliance on 4 August reflected growing alignment on clean energy priorities. Economic cooperation saw active expansion with focused engagement on infrastructure, energy, technology and markets. KEC International's 400 kV Vulcănești–Chișinău transmission line remained a major pillar of collaboration, along with discussions on future Indian participation in its inauguration.

Ambassador's meetings with the Secretariat of the Economic Council, Invest Moldova Agency and the Chamber of Commerce and Industry helped identify opportunities in pharmaceuticals, electronics, automotive components, agro-processing, textiles and renewable energy. Dialogues with the Ministries of Energy, Economic Development and Digitalization and Infrastructure advanced cooperation in clean energy, digitization, logistics and sustainable development. A key milestone was the entry of Moldovan apples into the Indian market, helping diversify Moldova's export destinations. People-to-people ties and cultural cooperation remained central to bilateral engagement. Collaboration with leading universities strengthened education partnerships and ensured student welfare.

Montenegro

Bilateral relations between the two countries further deepened during the year 2025. The bilateral trade has more than tripled in the Financial Year 2024-2025. One Montenegrin professional has participated in the ITEC capacity building training program in India after a gap of five years. A CanSat and Model Rocket making competition was organised in cooperation with Montenegro Space Research on 12 October to foster innovation and expand interaction with students in Montenegro.

Romania

High-level engagements continued during the year to reinforce strong diplomatic ties. EAM met the then Foreign Minister Emil Hurezeanu 15 February on the sidelines of Munich Security Conference and both sides expressed intention to cooperate in sectors such as connectivity, mobility and labour.

Minister of State for Commerce and Industry visited Romania from 3-6 November for the Joint Committee for Economic Cooperation (JCEC), and signed the protocol for the JCEC. He met with Romanian Ministers responsible for Labour, Infrastructure and EU Projects, Energy, Economy, Foreign Affairs, as well as the State Secretary for Transport and representatives of Romanian business chambers.

Economic engagement also expanded across multiple sectors such as IT, manufacturing, pharma, energy, logistics and maritime cooperation. Business interactions with Chambers of Commerce in Prahova, Arad, Timiș, Brașov, Iași and Constanța highlighted Romania's regional potential and Indian investments already generating employment. Port and logistics-related meetings in Constanța strengthened supply chain connectivity, while multiple B2B sessions

supported new partnerships in packaging, defence components, healthcare, agri-trade, safety equipment and EV battery manufacturing. Bilateral trade remained strong at over USD 2.9 billion with scope for further growth.

Serbia

Serbia is India's important partner in the Balkans. India-Serbia bilateral relations continued to strengthen during the year. Both countries continued to support each other at various multilateral fora including at the United Nations and worked together to strengthen multilateralism and the voice of Global South. The Serbian Government celebrated the NAM day, for the first time, on 1 September in the National Assembly building in Belgrade where the Embassy of India also participated.

A delegation from Serbia participated in the Aero India show in February. New initiatives were taken to improve bilateral relations in various areas through trade, science and technology, education, culture and tourism. For promoting Indian tourism, the Embassy of India in Belgrade participated in the 46th International Tourism Fair held at Belgrade in February. International Schools Sports Organization (ISSO) India sent a contingent of about 150 students for participation in the ISF U-15 World School Gymnasiade at Zlatibor, Serbia in April. Reputed Indian author Geetanjali Shree was awarded Luna Virino award by the Serbian Writers Association in Belgrade in September.

The Holy See

India attaches great importance to its friendly ties with the Holy See. Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji visited the Holy See to attend the funeral mass of Pope Francis on 26 April. Deputy Chairman Rajya Sabha led a delegation comprising Deputy Chief Minister of Nagaland attended the Solemn Ceremony of the Inauguration of the Pontificate of Pope Leo XIV on 18 May. Archbishop Paul Richard Gallagher, Secretary for Relations with States met EAM on 17 July, in New Delhi.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji visited the Holy See to attend the funeral mass of Pope Francis, April 2025

Slovenia

India and Slovenia share a warm and friendly relationship marked by mutual trust and shared values. The steadfast growth of bilateral partnership is testimony to the importance attached in the bilateral relation with Slovenia. India and Slovenia have maintained steady bilateral trade relations in recent years.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Slovenia Tanja Fajon visited India from 16-18 March to attend the Raisina Dialogue and held a bilateral meeting with EAM. She also spoke with EAM on 29 April and reiterated Slovenia's strong condemnation of a brutal terrorist attack in Pahalgam and expressed full solidarity.

The 10th session of the bilateral India-Slovenia Joint Commission on Trade & Economic Cooperation (JCTEC) was held at New Delhi on 25 November. The meeting was chaired by the Joint Secretary, Department of Commerce and Director General, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia Amb. Peter Japelj. Both sides reviewed the multi-sectoral collaboration between the two countries and charted a way forward for deepening the partnership. On the sidelines of JCTEC, an MoU was signed between Survey of India, and the Surveying and Mapping Authority, Slovenia on 27 November.

The 10th India-Slovenia FOCs were held in New Delhi on 6 May Co-chaired by Secretary(West) and State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of Slovenia Marko Stucin. State Secretary also called on EAM on 6 May and discussed India's strong bilateral and multilateral partnership with Slovenia.

All Party Parliamentary delegation visited Slovenia from 25-27 May following Operation Sindoor. The delegates held meetings with the President of the National Council, Chairperson of the Foreign Policy Committee of the National Assembly, Member of the India-Slovenia Parliamentary Friendship Group. They also had Interaction with the President and members of the Slovenian Association for International Relations and Media Interaction with major Slovenian newspapers and TV Channels.

The delegation conveyed India's strong commitment on zero tolerance against terrorism and national consensus on this issue. The Slovenian side reaffirmed its condemnation of terrorism as pure evil that cannot be justified in any form.

The Embassy of India in Ljubljana in collaboration with Slovenian Science Foundation and Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs celebrated the First ever Indian-Slovenian Science Festival on 25-26 September in Ljubljana. The event highlighted the strong India-Slovenia collaboration in the field of science, innovation, smart technologies and economy. Indian-Slovenian origin NASA Astronaut Sunita Williams attended the event virtually as its Honorary Patron. The event saw the collaboration of multiple stakeholders including Slovenian Ministries of Foreign and European Affairs; Higher Education, Research and Information System and IIT Kanpur from India.

Switzerland

The year marked a milestone in bilateral ties with the entry into force of the India–EFTA (European Free Trade Association, comprising of Switzerland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Iceland) Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) on 1 October, consolidating economic engagement and broadening cooperation in innovation, sustainability, and technology. The entry into force of TEPA was commemorated at the "Prosperity Summit" in New Delhi, hosted by Minister of Commerce and Industry, and attended by Swiss State Secretary for Economic Affairs Helene Budliger Artieda.

Minister of Commerce and Industry paid an official visit to Switzerland on 9–10 June at the invitation of Federal Councillor Guy Parmelin, Swiss Minister for Economic Affairs, Education and Research. Accompanied by a 100-member Indian business delegation, the Minister participated in the Swissmem Industry Day, one of the largest gatherings of the mechanical and electrical engineering (MEM) sector. A roundtable with Swiss technology firms highlighted opportunities in advanced manufacturing, clean energy, and digital solutions.

A high-level Indian delegation participated in the World Economic Forum (WEF) Annual Meeting in Davos from 20–24 January, including Union Cabinet Ministers Minister of Railways, Information and Broadcasting, Electronics and Information Technology, Minister for Jal Shakti, Minister of Civil Aviations, Minister of Food Processing Industries and MoS (Skill Development and Entrepreneurship.) In addition, Chief Ministers from the states of Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Maharashtra also participated.

EAM and Swiss Federal Councillor for Foreign Affairs Ignazio Cassis held a telephonic conversation on 2 May, during which Cassis expressed condolences and solidarity following the Pahalgam terrorist attack.

Institutional mechanisms continued to guide the broad-based India–Switzerland partnership across political, scientific, and environmental domain. The 13th Round of FOC was held in Berne on 13 February, at Secretary level, covering political, economic, and multilateral cooperation. The seventh Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) on Science and Technology was convened in Berne on 1 September, co-chaired by Secretary (DST) and Swiss State Secretary for Education, Research and Innovation Martina Hirayama. The 4th Joint Working Group on Climate Change and Environment was held in New Delhi on 22 September, co-chaired

by Joint Secretary (MoEFCC,) and Swiss Ambassador to India Maya Tissafi, to review cooperation in climate mitigation, clean technologies, and circular economy initiatives.

Principal Scientific Advisor to the Government of India visited Switzerland from 13-16 October to participate in the Geneva Science and Diplomacy Anticipator (GESDA) Summit. He met Foreign Minister Ignazio Cassis, the State Secretary for Foreign Affairs Alexandre Fasel, and SERI State Secretary Martina Hirayama.

State Secretary for Economic Affairs Helen Budliger accompanied by a pharma and biotech delegation visited New Delhi on 26 November and held a meeting with Minister of Commerce and Industry.

Türkiye

As part of the strategic outreach, an International Conference on 'India-Türkiye Relations: Historical and Contemporary Perspectives' in collaboration with Turkish Think-Tank the Foundation for Political Economic and Social Research (SETA) and Indian Think-Tank International Dialogue and Diplomacy Foundation (IDDF) was organized at SETA, Ankara on 26-27 February. Deputy Foreign Minister of Türkiye Amb. Berris Ekinci addressed the inaugural session as the Keynote Speaker. The think tanks, which participated in the Conference included IDDF, SETA, Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA), Observer Research Foundation (ORF), Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA), Centre for Strategic and Defence Research (CSDR), Centre for West Asian Studies (CWAS), Centre for Global India Insights (CGII), Vivekananda International Foundation (VIF), as well as members of academia from Indian and Turkish Universities. The members of the Indian Think-Tank Delegation also met the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye Fuat Oktay on 27 February.

The India-Türkiye economic and commercial cooperation constitutes an important dimension of the bilateral relations. In January, Indo-Türkiye Friendship Association (ITFA) and T-Hub (Telangana Startup Incubator Hub) signed an MoU aimed at strengthening innovation, trade and investment in sectors like technology, pharmaceuticals, and renewable energy. In February, Foreign Economic Relations Board of Türkiye (DEIK) delegation visited Mumbai to hold the meetings with FICCI, IMC Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Maharashtra Industry, Trade and Investment Facilitation Cell, Exim Bank of India, All India Association of Industries and IMC Bharat Calling Conference. WTC Mumbai and DEIK-Türkiye-India Business Council signed an MoU, which seeks to enhance B2B engagements with Türkiye.

A delegation from the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC) visited Istanbul and Bursa in April to hold meetings with DEIK, Istanbul Chamber of Commerce (ITO) and Bursa Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BTSO). EEPC also signed MoUs with DEIK and BTSO.

A 35-member delegation led by Coffee Board of India participated in COFFEX Istanbul in May and a delegation of 37 companies from CHEMEXIL participated in Beauty Istanbul 2025 in May. The Mission participated at the 94th Izmir International Fair in August, promoting Indian handicrafts, jewelry, Ayurveda, Yoga and wellbeing. Separately, the Mission participated in the 'Incredible India' campaign, and at Antalya Tourism Fair, held in October were India was a focus country.

25 Indian Companies participated in one of the world's leading trade fairs for greenhouse, horticulture and agricultural technologies, organised by Informa Markets at Antalya International Fair and Congress Center (ANFAŞ) from 18-21 November

Türkiye issued a statement to condemn the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, J&K on 22 April. Subsequently, following Operation Sindoor, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye issued a statement on 7 May calling India's response provocative and supported Pakistan's call for an investigation of the Pahalgam terror attack. Türkiye also issued a statement, welcoming the ceasefire on 10 May.

A bust of Mahatma Gandhi was installed in the Embassy complex on the occasion of Mahatma Gandhi Jayanti on 2 October.

Denmark

During the year 2025, bilateral relations between India and Denmark continued to evolve under the framework of 'Green Strategic Partnership' announced in 2020. In 2025, India's bilateral political outreach to Denmark was also guided by the importance of Denmark as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council (2025-26) and its Presidency of the Council of the European Union during the second half of the year.

Prime Minister held two telephonic conversations with Prime Minister of Denmark Mette Frederiksen on 15 April and 16 September. EAM visited Denmark from 20-21 May. EAM called-on Prime Minister Frederiksen and Speaker of the Danish Parliament Søren Gade. During these meetings, the two sides discussed the developments under the Green Strategic Partnership. Both sides also discussed regional and international developments of mutual interest. EAM met with Foreign Minister of Denmark Lars Løkke Rasmussen, and took stock of bilateral relations and discussed the ways to strengthen the ties further. EAM also met Minister of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs of Denmark Morten Bødskov, to deliberate on the ways to foster bilateral trade and investment.



EAM called-on Prime Minister of Denmark Mette Frederiksen during his visit to Denmark, May 2025.

Following Operation Sindoor, an All-Party Parliamentary Delegation visited Copenhagen from 29-31 May. The delegation was received in the Danish Parliament by Deputy Speaker and Member of the Presidium of the Parliament Lars Christian Brask. Chairman of the Foreign Policy Committee of the Danish Parliament Christian Friis Bach, called on the All Party Delegation. The Indian delegation also met a group of former Ministers, parliamentarians and officials. During these meetings, the All Party Delegation conveyed the message of India's unwavering stance against terrorism and its resolve to obliterate every trace of it.

Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways paid an official visit to Denmark on 5-6 June and met the Danish Minister of Industry, Business and Financial Affairs Morten Bødskov. The two ministers reviewed the robust bilateral maritime cooperation under the auspices of the Green Strategic Partnership and the bilateral MoU on Maritime Issues signed in September 2024. During the visit, Letter of Intent on Cooperation between the National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC) and Maritime Museum of Denmark, Helsingor was also signed. During the year, there were ministerial-level visits by the state government delegations of Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.

The eighth round of India-Denmark FOC was held on 17 November in New Delhi, co-chaired by Secretary (West) and State Secretary for Foreign Policy of the Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs Lotte Machon.

Economic and commercial ties have continued on an even level. The bilateral trade in goods and services was around USD 6 billion in 2024. Over 200 Danish companies have business presence in India, contributing to sectors such as shipping, renewable energy, pharmaceuticals, and agri-food. Several of these companies have built their manufacturing facilities in India, thus creating jobs, fostering technology transfer and reinforcing India's 'Make in India' initiative. During its Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the second half of 2025, Denmark remained committed to the early conclusion of the India–EU Free Trade Agreement.

The fourth Joint Committee Meeting for cooperation in Science & Technology, seventh Joint Working Group Meeting on Power, first Joint Working Group Meeting on Migration & Mobility and sixth Joint Working Group Meeting on Maritime Cooperation were held during the year. Denmark also participated as a Partner Country in the India Maritime Week 2025 held in Mumbai from 27-31 October.

Finland

India and Finland share warm and friendly ties rooted in common values and commitment. The telephonic conversations between Prime Minister and Finnish President Alexander Stubb on April 16 and 27 August, and their interaction in the margins of the G20 Leaders' Summit in South Africa in October, have given a new momentum to our bilateral political relations. On 30 August, EAM had a telephonic conversation with Finnish Foreign Minister Elina Valtonen, focusing on the Russia-Ukraine conflict.

The 13th round of India-Finland Foreign Office Consultations was held in Helsinki on 6 November, co-chaired by Secretary (West) and Permanent State Secretary of Finland Jukka Salovaara. Secretary (West) also called on Minister of Employment of Finland Matias Marttinen, on 6 November to discuss avenues of mobility of talent.

Finland, with over 100 companies operating in India and investments exceeding USD 4 billion, remains committed not only to the early conclusion of the India–EU Free Trade Agreement but also to further strengthening its bilateral economic and trade relations with India. The opening of a new Honorary Consulate in Ahmedabad in June, following the establishment of a Consulate in



Prime Minister met Finnish President Alexander Stubb on the sidelines of the G20 Leader's Summit in South Africa, October 2025

Mumbai in 2024, underscores Finland's continued focus on India. Further, the roadshow held across four major cities in Finland from 1-4 September, jointly organised by the Finnish and Indian Embassies to highlight opportunities in India for Finnish companies and institutions, was an important collaborative initiative aimed at encouraging Finnish stakeholders to explore the vast opportunities that India offers.

This year also saw broadening of the bilateral cooperation in the technology sector with Team Finland-India participating in the Startup Mahakumbh 2025 and the Karnataka government delegation visiting Helsinki in September to attract Finnish companies in the tech sector. In recent months, there has been a growing interest among Finnish companies in emerging technologies such as quantum computing and space technology. Finnish firms specializing in quantum technologies, including IQM, Quantrol, and Semicon, are actively participating in India's National Quantum Mission, reflecting deepening technological collaboration between the two countries. Similarly, the bilateral collaboration in 6G between the Bharat 6G Alliance and Finnish universities, particularly through the University of Oulu's 6G Flagship program, is playing a pivotal role in advancing next-generation communication technologies.

In the field of education, especially under the New Education Policy, Finland has emerged as an important partner for Indian schools. In March, 72 primary teachers from Punjab underwent a 3-week training at the University of Turku. From 22 April to 3 May, Sikkim's Education Minister led a delegation to Finland to study its education system and explore opportunities for collaboration.

Finnish engagements with the Indian think tank community continued with the Finnish Ambassador for Arctic affairs participating in the Arctic Circle India Forum 2025 held on 3-4 May.

Iceland

India and Iceland bilateral relations witnessed great momentum in 2025 with increased engagements.

On 2 January, EAM met former President of Iceland and Chairman of the Arctic Circle Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson, in New Delhi. The Arctic Circle India Forum was held on 4-5 May in New Delhi in which EAM participated in a panel discussion along with Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson. Former Prime Minister of Iceland and Chair of the Polar Dialogue, Katrin Jakobsdóttir also travelled to India for the same.

Iceland hosted the second India-Nordic Dialogue on 4-5 September for which MoS (KVS) visited Reykjavik. He held a meeting with Foreign Minister of Iceland Þorgerður Katrín Gunnarsdóttir and delivered the inaugural address at the Dialogue. Additional Secretary (Northern Europe Division) was a panel speaker from the Indian side.



MoS (KVS) called on Foreign Minister of Iceland Þorgerður Katrín Gunnarsdóttir on the sidelines of the second India-Nordic Track 1.5 Dialogue in Reykjavik, September 2025.

Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas visited Iceland on 11 July. This was the first Cabinet Minister to visit Iceland since 2011. Minister held a meeting with the Foreign Minister of Iceland Þorgerður Katrín, and interacted with Icelandic companies in the renewable energy space.

In the context of signing of India-EFTA-TEPA, the Commerce Secretary and Special Secretary visited Iceland on 23 June. Secretary, Department of Fisheries, visited Iceland from 10-12 September to explore the opportunities for cooperation in the fisheries sector.

On 11 February, Permanent Secretary of State Martin Eyjólfsson visited India and held meetings with Minister of Commerce and Industry on the sidelines of the inauguration of the India-EFTA desk for implementation of TEPA. He also attended India Energy Week 2025. The India-EFTA Prosperity Summit was organised on 1 October in New Delhi to mark the coming into force of the India-EFTA TEPA.

On 21 July, a team of 9 scientists from National Centre for Polar Research (NCPOR), Goa undertook a 15 day research expedition from Reykjavik, Iceland to the east Greenland Sea.



A team of 9 scientists from National Centre for Polar Research (NCPOR), Goa undertook a 15 day research expedition from Reykjavik, Iceland to the east Greenland Sea, July 2025.

Norway

The political relationship was consistently guided by engagements including at high levels throughout the year. Foreign Minister Espen Barth Eide visited India in March for participation in the Raisina Dialogue 2025 and met EAM on the margins.

Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways visited Norway on 1-4 June with an Indian shipping delegation which had installed a pavilion at the Nor Shipping event. Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas visited Oslo and met Norwegian companies working in the areas of oil and gas industry and renewable energy, on 7-8 July.

From 27–30 October, a delegation led by Norwegian Minister of Fisheries and Ocean Policy, Marianne Sivertsen Næss, visited Mumbai to attend the India Maritime Week 2025. Norwegian Minister of Health and Care Services Jan Christian Vestre visited India in November to participate in the Bengaluru Tech Summit.

Bilateral trade and investment ties are expected to get a boost through the India-EFTA-TEPA. Norway's Government Pension Fund Global (GPFG), which is valued at approximately USD 2 trillion, has invested around USD 32 billion in the Indian capital market, and cumulative Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows from Norway stood at only USD 880 million. Over 148 Norwegian companies are registered in India, with approximately 130 active in sectors like hydropower, renewable energy, food processing, and IT services. Indian IT majors like TCS, Infosys, and Wipro have also established reciprocal investments in Norway.

A delegation led by Joint Secretary of the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS) attended the Arctic Frontiers Conference at Tromsø from 29 January- 7 February, focusing on enhancing India's participation in Arctic Council Working Groups and strengthening polar research. In the space domain, ISRO continues to utilize Norway's Svalbard ground station commercially, and this collaboration will continue to deepen further with ISRO's hosted antenna, set up by KSAT in Svalbard.

The Inaugural India-Norway Maritime Security, Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Dialogue was launched on 11 September. To take forward the sector-specific cooperation, the meetings of Joint Task Force on Blue Economy, Joint Working Group (JWG) on Science and Technology, JWG on Maritime Matters and JWG on Education were held.

Sweden

India and Sweden have had longstanding close relations based on common values and strong business, investment and R&D linkages. The relationship was guided by high-level ministerial interactions. Foreign Minister of Sweden Maria Malmer Stenergard visited India in March to participate in the Raisina Dialogue and held meetings with EAM and the Minister of Commerce and Industry. She also participated in a meeting between Indian and Swedish business leaders within the framework of the "India Sweden Business Leaders Roundtable". The meeting also witnessed the signing of a MoU by representatives from Ericsson, Volvo Group, and Bharti Airtel.

Minister of Commerce and Industry along with a high level business delegation, visited Stockholm on 11-12 June, during which 21st session of the India-Sweden Joint Commission for Economic, Industrial and Scientific Cooperation was held. He also participated in the India-Sweden High-Level Trade and Investment Policy Forum at the Confederation of Swedish Enterprises. Ministerial-level delegations from the State Governments of Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat and Jharkhand visited Sweden.

Parliamentary exchanges received an impetus with the visit of Swedish Members of Parliament representing India-Sweden Friendship Group in Swedish Parliament in March. From 7-14 June, a delegation from the Election Commission of India led by the then Chief Election Commissioner visited Sweden to attend the high-level session celebrating the 30th Anniversary of International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.

The 27th edition of India Trilateral Forum (ITF) was held on 6-7 October in Stockholm, Sweden. The ITF is a closed-door, track 1.5 conference, bringing together senior policy makers, top strategic experts, academia and companies from India, Europe and the US. It was attended by Swedish National Security Adviser Niclas Kvarnström as Keynote Speaker and Additional Secretary, (Northern Europe Division) as a panel speaker from the Indian side. The event was also attended by representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Sweden, France, Germany, Czech Republic and Netherlands and of the European Commission.

The 12th India Sweden Innovation Day (ISID) was organised in Stockholm on 29 September with the theme of 'Co-Creating a Sustainable Future: Scaling Innovation Through Partnership'. Opening remarks were delivered by Minister of Road Transport and Highways virtually and State Secretary to the Minister for Energy, Business and Industry, Swedish Ministry of Climate and Enterprise Sara Modig.

To take forward the sector-specific cooperation, meetings of Joint Working Groups on Environment and Defence Cooperation and Sustainable Urban Development were held. Under the India-Sweden joint global initiative, Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT 2.0) aimed at decarbonization of hard to abate sectors, India-Sweden Industry Transition Partnership (ITP) Summit 2.0 was held on 7 May in Stockholm. From 30 October- 1 November, State Secretary in Ministry for Energy, Business and Industry of Sweden Sara Modig, visited India with a focus to deepen collaboration in the areas of trade & investment, innovation, sustainability and green transition.

In 2025, the bilateral trade and investment ties between India thrived and business linkages continued to expand. Around 280 Swedish companies remain active in India including Ericsson, Spotify, Truecaller, Volvo, Scania, Sandvik, AstraZeneca, Tetra Pack, IKEA, HandM and SAAB. Reciprocally, nearly 70 Indian companies are present in Sweden. Sweden remains supportive of the early conclusion of India-EU-FTA.

On 14 September, Namaste Stockholm, a day-long celebration of Indian culture, took place in Stockholm. The event featured Indian dance, music, yoga, delicious cuisine, and beautiful handicrafts. This year's event was inaugurated by Swedish Culture Minister Parisa Liljestrand.

Estonia

The India-Estonia bilateral relations remained cordial and friendly. On 11 February, Prime Minister met Estonian President Alar Karis on the sidelines of the AI Summit in Paris.



Prime Minister with the President of Estonia Alar Karis on the sidelines of the AI Action Summit in Paris, February 2025

Secretary General of Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Estonia Jonatan Vseviov, visited New Delhi in March to attend the Raisina Dialogue 2025.

There were a number of business visits from India to Estonia during the year. Some of the visiting Indian business delegations also participated in the 'India Market Day' event hosted by the Estonian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in September to foster new commercial connections between India and Estonia.

Latvia

India's relations with Latvia continued to grow during the year.

Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia Baiba Braze visited India in March to participate in the Raisina Dialogue 2025 and she also met EAM on the margins. After the Pahalgam attack, an all-party delegation visited Latvia from 29-31 May. They met the Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee, State Secretary of Latvian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and other Members of Parliament.

The ninth round of India-Latvia FOC was held in Riga on 5 November, co-chaired by Secretary (West) and State Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Latvia Andžejs Viļumsons. Secretary (West) also called on Foreign Minister of Latvia Baiba Braže.

Lithuania

India's relations with Lithuania progressed steadily during the year. Celebrating the historic people-to-people ties, the year 2025 was declared as 'Year of people-to-people connections between India and Lithuania'.

Political Director in the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs Laimonas Talat-Kelpša, attended the Raisina Dialogue 2025 in New Delhi in March. In September, Lithuanian Vice Foreign Minister Julius Pranevičius led the delegation of Lithuanian Laser Association and companies and participated in Laser World of Photonics India 2025 exhibition in Bengaluru.

During the India Maritime Week 2025 in October, a MoU was signed between the Klaipeda Port and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority.

Bosnia and Herzegovina

India and Bosnia and Herzegovina maintained friendly relations, setting a positive trajectory as both nations mark the 30th anniversary of diplomatic ties in 2025. The two countries have a lot in common such as composite society, cultural heritage, democracy, demography and democratic process. Recent political consultations and high level engagements have yielded an understanding of mutual perspectives on global and regional challenges, fostering deeper

engagement across platforms including the UN and NAM. There is a potential to collaborate in sectors such as renewable energy, agriculture and food processing, ICT, mining and tourism.

Czech Republic

India and the Czech Republic relations continued to develop through visits and official engagements.

A Czech Parliamentary delegation led by Vice Presidents of the Senate of the Parliament of the Czech Republic, Jitka Seitlova and Jiri Oberfalzer visited India from 9-13 December and met Deputy Chairperson of Rajya Sabha, and Chairman of the Standing Committee on Tourism, Culture and Transport.

The eighth round of FOC was held in New Delhi on 15 January.

A 16-member high-level delegation from National Defence College (NDC), India visited Czech Republic for a foreign study tour on 9-13 June.

The seventh edition of India-Czech Joint Defence Committee (JDC) was held in Prague on 7 October. On 8 October, India-Czechia Defence Industry Seminar was also held on the margins of JDC. The first-ever India Pavilion was set up at the International Defence and Security Technologies Fair (IDET) in Brno from 28-30 May. An Indian Pavilion was set up by the Engineering Export Promotion Council (EEPC INDIA) at the MSV International Engineering Fair held in Brno from 7-10 October.

Hungary

Relations between India and Hungary continued on an upward trajectory through the year. Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary Péter Szijjártó, visited New Delhi to attend Raisina Dialogue in March and met EAM, Commerce and Industry Minister, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and Minister of Civil Aviation on the margins. Discussions were focused on furthering the bilateral cooperation in the areas of trade and investment, air connectivity, green hydrogen and civilian nuclear energy.

A four-member delegation led by the Speaker of Uttar Pradesh Legislative visited Hungary from 11-14 October and met Hungarian Parliamentarians.

India-Hungary space cooperation reached new heights with both countries jointly sending astronauts to the International Space Station through a landmark private mission facilitated by Axiom Space and SpaceX.

Poland

India and Poland share a long-standing friendly relationship, which was elevated to a strategic partnership during Prime Minister's official visit to Poland in August 2024.

In fulfillment of the Prime Minister's announcement during his official visit to Poland in August 2024, the first visit of a 20-member Polish youth delegation to India was organized from 19-27 February under the Jamsaheb Memorial Youth Exchange Programme. The youth group visited the Balachadi and Valivade camps in Jamnagar and Kolhapur respectively where Polish children and evacuees lived for several years in the 1940s. They also called on EAM and the Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, during the visit.

Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Sejm (lower House of Polish Parliament) Pawel Kowal, visited India leading a Parliamentary delegation of six MPs from 7 to 13 February.

The 11th round of India-Poland Foreign Office Consultations was held on 1 December in New Delhi, co-chaired by Secretary (West) and Secretary of State, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Poland, W. T. Bartoszewski.

India and Poland continued strengthening their economic relations with bilateral trade reaching close to USD 6 billion, registering a growth of over 200 percent in the last decade. Indian investments in Poland are close to USD 3 billion whereas Polish investments in India are worth nearly USD 1 billion.

Lieutenant General Marek Sokołowski, General Commander of the Polish Armed Forces led a three-

member delegation to India to participate in the UN Troops Contributing Countries (UNTCC) Conclave hosted by India 14-16 October.

The 11th round of FOC between India and Poland was held in New Delhi on 1 December.

Slovak Republic

The 12th session of India-Slovakia Joint Economic Committee was held in New Delhi on 19 February to boost bilateral commercial engagements.

Foreign Minister of Slovak Republic Juraj Blanár visited India for Raisina Dialogue 2025 from 17-19 March. A large business delegation also accompanied him. Finance Minister Ladislav Kamenický, along with several senior functionaries of the government and journalists were also included in the delegation. Slovak Foreign Minister had a meeting with EAM during his visit. He also inaugurated the Honorary Consulate of Slovakia in Kolkata on 20 March.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji with Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic Robert Fico during her visit to Slovakia, April 2025.

Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji visited Slovakia on 9-10 April. A large business delegation also accompanied the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji. The Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji met the President of Slovak Republic Peter Pellegrini, the Prime Minister Robert Fico, the Speaker of the Parliament among the various dignitaries. Two MoUs (i) Cooperation between Foreign Service Institutes of both the countries and (ii) MoU between National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC), India and Slovak Business Agency (SBA), Slovak Republic on cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of Republic of India and Slovak Republic, were signed during the visit.

Europe West

Andorra

India and Andorra continue to share cordial and friendly relations since the diplomatic relations were established in 1994.

Bilateral trade between India and Andorra stood at USD 3.24 million in 2024, with indian exports at USD 3.15 million. It included textiles and garments, spirits and precious and semi-precious stones. Similarly for the year 2025 (January to September), trade between the two countries reached USD 3 million with nearly all trade being exports from India to Andorra.

Around 140 Indians/PIOs live in Andorra. The Indian community has been in Andorra since the 1970s starting mainly as businesspersons selling electronic goods and diversifying to other areas later.

Belgium

India and Belgium share a close bilateral relationship which over the decades, has developed into robust and multifaceted partnership that spans a wide range of sectors from trade and investment to science and technology, from healthcare and clean energy to sustainable growth, research and innovation, education, culture, and people-to-people exchanges. This year has seen a positive and forward-looking trajectory in bilateral relations, marked by several high-level engagements and exchanges.

High-level engagements

On 27 March, Prime Minister held a conversation with King Philippe of Belgium, as a follow up to the Belgian Economic Mission.

Princess Astrid led a second Economic Mission (last mission was in 2013) from 1-8 March to India. She was accompanied by the Deputy Prime Minister and

Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of Defence and Foreign Trade and the Minister President Flanders Region. The Economic Mission had over 330 participants and comprised 147 companies, 6 chambers of commerce, 9 academic institutions and 18 public sector organisations. During the Mission, 38 MoUs were signed across various sectors including life sciences, defence, renewable energy, academic collaborations and digital innovation. During her visit, the Princess called on the Prime Minister and also met with Ministers of Defence, Commerce and Industry, Electronics and Information Technology and NSA. EAM also had a bilateral meeting with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, and also met with Princess Astrid and the accompanying the official delegation.

EAM visited Brussels from 9-11 June, and held a bilateral meeting with Belgian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Maxime Prevot on 9 June. During this visit he also called on Belgian Prime Minister and King Philippe on 10 June. The Minister of Commerce and Industry also visited Brussels in January and May.

A nine-member all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Brussels from 3-5 June to convey India's strong national consensus and resolute approach to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. They met with the President of Chamber of Representatives and members of Belgian Parliament and also interacted with think-tanks, media and members of the Indian community.

Institutional/Dialogue Mechanisms

The third Foreign Office Consultations were held in Brussels on 4 November, co-chaired by Secretary (West) from the Indian side and the Secretary General of the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs from the Belgian side.

Trade and Investment

India-Belgium bilateral trade amounted to USD 12.91 billion in 2024-25. Major Indian exports include precious metals and stones, chemicals, and base metals, while key imports are precious metals and stones, base metals, chemicals, textiles, and machinery. Trade in diamonds is a significant component of bilateral trade. FDI inflows to India, from April 2000 to March 2025, amounted to USD 4.023 billion, positioning Belgium as a significant contributor to India's FDI.

European Union

This year witnessed unprecedented momentum in India–European Union relations, marked by the landmark visit of the College of Commissioners to New Delhi and a series of high-level engagements that underscored a shared commitment to deeper partnership. The India-EU Strategic Partnership was further strengthened with intensified interactions at all levels and closer cooperation in the areas of trade, technology, defence, security, mobility and connectivity. The period saw the second Ministerial meeting of the India-EU Trade and Technology Council, the first-ever Strategic Dialogue between the EAM and the EU High Representative/Vice-President (HRVP), as well as the inaugural visit of the Political and Security Committee to India representing all EU member states.

High-level engagements

President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen led the EU College of Commissioners for a landmark visit to India on 27-28 February and met Prime Minister. Prime Minister met President of the European Council Antonio Costa and President von der Leyen on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananakis, Canada on 10 June. Prime Minister also had telephone conversations with President Antonio Costa on 7 January, together with both the EU leaders on 4 September and with President von der Leyen on 17 September.

There have been regular Ministerial-level interactions with the EU. EAM visited Brussels in June and co-chaired the first India EU Strategic Dialogue with EU High Representative and Vice President (HRVP) Kaja Kallas. During the visit, EAM called on President von der Leyen, President of the European Parliament, and met European Commissioners for

Defence Industry and Space, Trade and Economic Security, and International Partnerships. EAM also met key Members of the European Parliament from the Delegation for Relations with India, Committee on Foreign Affairs, and Committee on International Trade. EAM participated in the informal EU foreign ministers' meeting on UNGA sidelines in New York on 22 September. Minister of Commerce and Industry and EU Trade Commissioner have met in person six times in Brussels (including for the High Level Dialogue on Trade and Investment in January), New Delhi and Mumbai till November this year. Minister of Commerce and Industry also met the EU Commissioner for Economy and Productivity in Berlin on 24 October. EU Commissioner for Agriculture Christophe Hansen visited India in September.

The Political and Security Committee (PSC) of the European Union, an important body of the Council of the EU representing 27 EU Member States, paid its first official visit to India in September. European Parliament Committees for Internal Market and Consumer Protection (IMCO), and on International Trade (INTA) visited India in January and October respectively.

A nine member all-party Parliamentary delegation visited Brussels in June and met with Vice-President of the European Parliament in-charge of Asia, EU's Special Envoy for Counter-Terrorism, Members of the European Parliament (MEPs) from the Delegation for Relations with India (D-IN), the Committee on Foreign Affairs (AFET), and the Committee on Security and Defence (SEDE) as well as EU think tanks to convey India's strong national consensus and resolute approach to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations.

EU Commissioner for Trade and Economic Security Maros Sefcovic's visited India in December and had meetings with EAM, Finance Minister and Minister of Commerce and Industry. EAM met with EU High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Kaja Kallas on 13 November on the sidelines of G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting (FMM) in Canada. Minister of Commerce and Industry met with EU Executive Vice-President Teresa Ribera on 22 October on the sidelines of UNCTAD16 in Geneva.

Institutional Dialogue Mechanisms

These include the Strategic Partnership Review Meeting (in Brussels, November 2025), Foreign Policy and Security Consultations (in Brussels, November 2025), Inaugural edition of Space Dialogue (in Brussels, November 2025), Dialogues on Migration and Mobility (New Delhi, November 2025), Counterterrorism (Brussels, September 2025), Maritime Security (New Delhi, March 2025), Cyber (New Delhi, March 2025), and the Joint Working Group on Agriculture (Brussels, May 2025).

Further, a delegation of the Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers visited Brussels in December and met EU Commissioner for Defence and Space Andrius Kubilius.

Key highlights

The visit of EU College of Commissioners to India enabled a whole-of-government approach to strengthening bilateral relations across domains. 20 ministerial meetings were held and the outcomes were presented to the leaders and reflected in the February Leaders' Statement. The second India-EU Trade and Technology Council (TTC) was also held during the college visit during which the two sides agreed to work in the fields of Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), e-signatures, semiconductor supply chains, AI, 6G, joint research cooperation focusing on areas of EV recycling, marine plastic litter and waste-to-renewable hydrogen, market access, screening of Foreign Direct Investments, multilateral trading system. The Trade and Technology Council between India and EU is an important platform for India for anchoring the discussions on issues of strategic and contemporary importance like Semiconductors, quantum computing, AI, Green energy and resilient supply chains. This is the first such mechanism for India with any partner and the second for the EU after its TTC with the USA.

Subsequent to the College visit, EU published a new India – EU Strategic Agenda in September outlining concrete steps to further bilateral cooperation

strengthen under key pillars of prosperity and sustainability, technology and innovation, security and defence, connectivity and global issues, and enablers across pillars. 14 rounds of negotiations on the Free Trade Agreement, six rounds on the Investment Protection Agreement and five rounds on the Geographical Indicators (GI) Agreement have been held so far. An Administrative Arrangement on Trilateral Cooperation was signed during EAM's visit to Brussels in June.

Trade

India and the European Union continued to remain robust trading partners. Bilateral trade in goods during FY 2024-25 stood at USD 135.7 billion of which Indian exports amounted to USD 75.7 billion and the EU's exports stood at USD 59.9 billion, making EU India's largest trading partner in goods as a bloc. In addition, the India–EU bilateral trade in services in 2023 stood at approximately USD 65 billion, up 17 percent compared to 2022 and with a balance of USD 8.5 billion in India's favour.

France

India and France have a long-standing Strategic Partnership, established in 1998. France has been one of India's most trusted partners, not only in Europe but globally. Both countries enjoy an exceptionally strong and multifaceted bilateral cooperation, which extends to close consultations on global and regional matters. The India France Strategic Partnership continues to grow with deep-rooted trust and confidence in each other, consistency and strength, strong belief in sovereignty and strategic autonomy, which have paved the way for cooperation and collaboration in areas of strategic domain such as defence, space, civil nuclear energy, and critical and emerging technologies.

High-Level Exchanges

On 10-12 February, at the invitation of the President of the French Republic, Emmanuel Macron, the Prime Minister paid a visit to France to co-chair the AI Action Summit, hosted by France. This was Prime Minister's sixth visit to France, and follows President Macron's visit to India in January 2024 as the Chief Guest for the 75th Republic Day of India. Both countries signed the India-France Declaration on Artificial Intelligence. The leaders participated in India-France CEO Forum, travelled to Marseille to jointly inaugurate India's Consulate General in Marseille and concluded key agreements/MoUs in the domains of civil nuclear energy, AI, Innovation, and development cooperation. Both leaders met on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada, on 17 June and maintained regular contact over telephone calls, as on 21 August and 6 September. Prime Minister met President Macron on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa in November.

EAM made an official visit to France from 11-14 June during which he held discussions with the French Foreign Minister and called-on President Macron. During the visit, he also inaugurated the first edition of the Mediterranean Edition of Raisina Dialogue in Marseille on 12-13 June, together with French Foreign Minister Jean Noel Barrot. On 21 February, on the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Minister's meeting in Johannesburg, South Africa, EAM met with his counterparts from Australia and France, giving an impetus to India-France-Australia trilateral cooperation. EAM met with the French Foreign Minister on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers meeting in Niagara in Canada in November.

The Minister of Commerce and Industry Minister visited Paris on 3-4 June to attend the WTO Ministerial Meeting. Minister of Earth Sciences visited Nice from 9-13 June to participate in the third United Nations Ocean Conference. Minister of State of Electronics and Information Technology visited France from 10-13 June to attend the 9th edition of Vivatech. The Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister, visited Nice on 6-7 June to co-chair the seventh International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI). Minister of Culture and Tourism visited France on 26-28 September. From France, the French Minister to the Minister of State, Minister of the Interior François-Noël Buffet, visited India on 23 April, to jointly inaugurate the

second edition of 2025 MILIPOL India. On 20 January, both sides also held the Foreign Office Consultations at the level of Foreign Secretary in Paris.

Parliamentary Exchanges

A delegation of French Senators from the Senate's Committee of Foreign Affairs and Defence visited New Delhi, Bangalore, and Mumbai from 18-25 May. The delegation expressed solidarity with India in the fight against terrorism, as the visit took place immediately after the Operation Sindoor in May. This was followed by the nine member all-party Parliamentary delegation which visited Paris from 25-27 May, and met with India-France Friendship Groups, as well as the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defence in both the French National Assembly and Senate. They interacted with think-tanks, media and members of the Indian community. In all these engagements, the French side expressed their support to India in the fight against terrorism.

Defence Cooperation

France is among our trusted partners in Defence collaboration with wide ranging cooperation across the air, land and naval domains comprising industry collaborations, technology transfer and regular exchanges. The year 2025 continued to witness growth in bilateral defence cooperation with a range of activities including key agreements, bilateral military exercises, staff-level talks, bilateral visits and training exercises.

On 15 January, the sixth submarine of the P75 Scorpene-class project, INS Vaghsheer, was commissioned in the Indian Navy. An Inter-Governmental Agreement between India and France for the procurement of 26 Rafale Marine aircrafts for the Indian Navy, was signed on 28 April.

During the year, Chief of Army Staff visited France from 24-27 February, and the French Chief of Army Staff Gen. Pierre Schill visited New Delhi to participate in the United Nations Troop Contributing Countries Chiefs' Conclave on 13 October.

Bilateral Naval Exercise, "VARUNA" was held from 19-22 March in the Arabian Sea. The bilateral Army Exercise, "SHAKTI" was conducted in France from 18 June – 1 July. The Indo-French bilateral Air Exercise, "GARUDA" was held in France on 16-27 November. French Carrier Strike Group made port call in Goa and Kochi from 3-9 January. There were also a number of other port calls between India and France during the year. The fifth edition of multilateral exercise La Perouse was conducted in the Indian Ocean Region on 16-24 January in which India participated. In the field of defence-space, the Defence Space Agency participated in multilateral Aster-X 25 exercise held from 17-28 March in France.

This year marked the launch of the first joint Indo-French challenge co-organised by the French Defence Innovation Agency (AID) and Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) of India, to invoke interest of students on emerging defence technology and artificial intelligence. The 'India Pavilion' was set up during the 55th Paris Air Show, held on 16-22 June at Le Bourget, France showcasing systems developed by HAL, DRDO and industries.

To deepen collaboration in defence research and development a Technical Agreement was signed between Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) and Directorate General of Armaments (DGA), France on 20 November. A letter of intent between National Security Guard of India and National Gendarmerie Intervention Group (GIGN) of France was signed on 19 November in Paris, enabling deeper synergy in sharing expertise, experience and specialised counter terror skills.

Civil Nuclear Cooperation

A letter of intent on Small Modular Reactor (SMR) and Advanced Modular Reactor (AMR) and an agreement for cooperation in training and education of nuclear professionals was signed in February. Two meetings of the Special Task Force on Civil Nuclear Energy (co-chaired by Foreign Secretary and the French Secretary-General) were held on 20 January in Paris and 22 September in New Delhi.

An India Pavilion was established for the first time ever at the Sixth World Nuclear Exhibition in Paris in November.

Economic Cooperation

Within the EU, France remains India's major trading partner. The bilateral trade between India and France has more than doubled in the last decade to USD 15.21 billion in 2024-25. For the year 2024-25, Indian exports to France amounted to USD 7.95 billion. France contributed a cumulative investment of USD 11.75 billion from April 2000 to March 2025. Chairman, SEBI visited Paris on 24-26 September to attend the Financial Stability Engagement Group (FSEG) meeting and also interacted with French foreign investors and stakeholders.

Innovation, Technology and Other Sectoral Cooperation

India and France have a rich history of cooperation in the fields of science and technology. The cooperation ranges from health, digital, energy and oceans to applied mathematics. The 38th Governing Body meeting of the Indo-French Centre for the Promotion of Advanced Research (IFCPAR/CEFIPRA) was held in New Delhi on 24 February. After the enabling of Unified Payment Interface (UPI) at the Eiffel Tower and Galleries Lafayette, in 2025, India and France continued to advance multi-stakeholder exchanges through the InFrastructures (India France Structures) and InFinity (India France Innovation in Information Technology) platforms.

During Prime Minister's visit to France in February, both countries signed a number of agreements/ LoI's in areas like Digital Sciences and Life Sciences Innovation. In the field of AI, in March, India signed a contract with Station F and HEC Paris for the IndiaAI Startups Global Acceleration Program. India and France also signed a Joint Declaration of Intent on Indo-Pacific Triangular Development Cooperation, and a Declaration of Intent in the Field of Environment.

Community in France and Indian Students in France

There is a large presence of Indian diaspora in the French mainland and its overseas territories. There are an estimated 1,19,000 Indian community in mainland France. The estimated Indian-origin population in French Overseas Territories is-Reunion Island (3,00,159), Guadeloupe (57,180), French Guiana (12,000), Martinique (8,090) and Saint Martin (1950). The number of Indian students in France crossed nearly 10,000 for the first time. The first OCI card to the Indian-origin communities in Guadeloupe and Martinique was issued in February and a delegation from the Embassy visited French Guiana on 11-13 September, commemorating the arrival of Indians to French Guiana, who arrived between 1856 and 1876.

Germany

The year 2025 marked successful completion of 25 years of India-Germany Strategic Partnership. Germany is India's largest trading partner in Europe and the ties between the two countries have expanded to cover all domains including mobility of skilled talent, education, renewable energy, defence and security, green and sustainable development and people to people ties. The Strategic Partnership has been further strengthened with the Intergovernmental Consultations (IGC) at the level of Heads of Government with the 7th IGC held on October 25, 2024 in New Delhi.

High-level Engagements

Prime Minister had a telecon with German Federal Chancellor Friedrich Merz on 20 May and congratulated him on assuming office. On 17 June, Prime Minister met Chancellor Merz, on the sidelines of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, Canada. Prime Minister thanked the Chancellor for Germany's strong expression of solidarity with and support for India's fight against terrorism. Prime Minister and Chancellor Merz met on the sidelines of G20 Summit in Johannesburg, South

Africa. Minister of Commerce and Industry visited Germany from 22-24 October, and held discussions with his counterpart Katherina Reiche, apart from meeting business leaders in Germany.

Ministerial Visits

EAM held a joint telephone call with Foreign Ministers of Germany and France in May. EAM visited Germany from 22-24 May during which he called on Chancellor Merz. EAM held discussions with his counterpart, Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul as well as with Minister for Economic Affairs and Energy and Foreign and Security Policy Advisor to the Federal Chancellor. EAM also engaged with Members of the German Parliament, Foreign and Security policy experts and members of the Indian community.

From the German side, German Foreign Minister Johann Wadephul made his maiden visit to India on 1-3 September. During the visit, the Minister called on Prime Minister and held delegation-level talks with EAM. The two sides agreed on gratis visas for short-term school and college visits between the countries. The Minister also engaged with Minister of Commerce and Industry.

Visit of All-Party Parliamentary Delegation

A nine-member All-Party Parliamentary Delegation visited Germany from 5-7 June and reiterated India's resolute commitment to the policy of zero tolerance for terrorism. The visit was marked by high-level engagements with Foreign Minister Wadephul, Chairman of Foreign Affairs Committee of Bundestag, Armin Laschet, senior political leaders and Members of the Bundestag as well as with leading think-tanks and representatives of the Indian community.

Other Ministerial visits

Minister of Commerce and Industry visited Berlin in October for high-level bilateral meetings, as well as engagements with business leaders. Minister of Textiles visited Germany in January to participate in Heimtextil 2025 (a Global symposium on Textiles). Minister of State for Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (Independent Charge) visited Germany in July.

Multilateral Cooperation

India and Germany are committed to the strengthening and reform of the multilateral system and, as members of the Group of Four (G4), support the expansion of both the permanent and non-permanent membership of the UN Security Council. Both countries also support each other on UNSC expansion within the framework of the G4. The last meeting of the G4 at the level of Foreign Ministers was held on the sidelines of the 80th UNGA in New York, in September, and at the working level, a G4 Director General meeting was held in June.

Economic Cooperation

Germany was ranked as India's eighth largest trading partner in Financial Year (FY) 2024-25. Bilateral trade in goods and services reached USD 51.23 billion.

Germany is India's ninth largest foreign direct investor, with total German FDI in FY 2024-25 amounting to USD 469million. Over 2,000 German companies are currently active in India. During 2025 so far, German companies have announced significant investments in India. In March, Infineon opened its GCC in GIFT city Gujarat. Several major investments include companies like BASF, Schaeffler, Festois, Nordex SE, Knorr-Bremse, Vensys Energy, amongst others.

Development Cooperation

In September, under the Green and Sustainable Development Partnership (GSDP), consultations between the Government of India and the Government of Germany were held on development projects across a wide variety of sectors such as renewable energy (including solar, green hydrogen and energy efficiency); sustainable urban development; e-mobility; agriculture and agro-ecological sector; skilling; quality infrastructure and standardization, among others.

In the annual bilateral negotiations on development cooperation held in New Delhi on 5 December, Germany committed assistance of about USD 1.49 billion across key areas such as energy transition, sustainable urban development, green mobility, sustainable agriculture,

skilling etc. The assistance consists mainly of concessional loans. Some key projects include Green Energy Corridor Projects in various states (such as Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu), Urban Mobility projects (Ahmedabad, Surat, Bangalore Metro), Ganga Rejuvenation and Renewable Energy Partnership.

Trilateral development cooperation (TDC)

Trilateral development cooperation (TDC) has been progressing well with five pilot projects completed and two ongoing. The Joint Steering Committee meeting of TDC was held in December in New Delhi. TDC has been progressing well with seven pilot projects completed. Three pilots are being scaled up in 2025, including Cameroon (Climate Adaptive RAC Technology Laboratory for Nationwide Potato Seed Innovation), Malawi (Technical Innovation and Entrepreneurship Hub in Agri Value Chain for Women and Youth) and Ghana (Digital Technology Centre for design and processing in Bamboo).

Science, Technology and Innovation

Building on the 50th anniversary of S&T collaboration between the two countries last year, Indo-German cooperation in Science, Technology and Innovation (STI) deepened across several emerging domains during the year. The Indian National Science Day 2025 was celebrated in March at Darmstadt, in association with FAIR-GSI and the Max Planck Society. New MoUs and LoIs were announced in August between (a) Technische Universität Berlin and Siemens Mobility with IIT Kharagpur and IIT Tirupati in dynamic charging, (b) FAIR and IIT Kharagpur in particle research, and (c) DESY and IIT Kharagpur in quantum/nano research. The InDeVet was launched at the University of Leipzig in April, for opening new avenues in veterinary and life sciences research.

The BITS Pilani delegation visited TU Dresden on 17 October to facilitate the signing of an MoU between the two institutions. Our Mission hosted a Seminar on "Indo-German Tech Dialogue in which MoUs between University of Stuttgart and IIT Kharagpur & IIT Tirupati were exchanged. The Joint S&T Committee Meeting was held in New Delhi on 24-25 November.

Defence Cooperation

India and Germany have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral defence cooperation in various fora, with a broad horizon encompassing high level visits, military engagements, sharing of best practices and defence industrial partnership.

A high-level delegation led by Lt Gen Thorsten Poschwatta, Commander Air Operations Command attended Aero India 2025 at Bangalore from 10-14 February. A defence seminar cum exhibition was conducted in Berlin, Germany on 10 April. 30 Indian defence companies and 100 German defence companies attended the event. Military Cooperation Sub Group (MCSG) Meeting is part of the institutionalised mechanism of bilateral defence cooperation between India and Germany. The 18th MCSG meeting was held in New Delhi from 29 to 30 September. Upon invitation from the German side, India's formal admission as an observer state in this programme took place on 21 January. India has nominated DRDO as the lead agency for interaction and coordination with OCCAR Eurodrone Programme Working Group (PWG). Germany will be deploying its Navy LO in the Integrated Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) at Gurugram.

The 12th India-Germany High Defence Committee (HDC) meeting co-chaired by Defence Secretary from the Indian side and by State Secretary, Federal Ministry of Defence, from the German side was held at New Delhi on 18 November.

Mobility and Education

Mobility of skilled talent is an important pillar in the India-Germany relations. The first India-Germany Consular Dialogue was held on 6 May in Berlin. Meetings of the German-Indian Joint Working Group (JWG) on Migration and Return and the Sub-Committee on Labour Migration were held in Berlin on 8-9 April. India and Germany agreed to gratis visas

for short-term school and college visits between the two countries to further promote student exchanges and education ties during the visit of German Foreign Minister to India in September.

Around 60,000 Indian students are enrolled in German Universities for higher studies (doubled in the last 5 years), making them the largest cohort among the international student community in Germany.

Culture and People to people ties

During the year, the Tagore Centre organized around 45 cultural events. Notable examples include: a three-day Indian Film Festival across four cities in Germany showcasing over 30 films. Moreover, Germany hosted first India and Ayurveda Week organized at Bleiche Hotel, Spreewald from 5–12 October.

Ireland

India and Ireland share strong political ties rooted in our freedom struggle movements and growing economic and people-to-people connections.

High-level visits and meetings

EAM paid an official visit to Ireland from 6 and 7 March which was the first ever stand alone visit of an EAM to Ireland. During the visit, EAM called on the then President of Ireland Michael D Higgins, and held discussions on the growing bilateral ties and exchanged views on regional and global developments. EAM held delegation level talks with his Irish counterpart the then Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Simon Harris and reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral cooperation. EAM also met the Minister of Higher Education James Lawless and the former Prime Minister Leo Varadkar. An MoU on diplomatic exchanges aimed at deepening institutional cooperation and experience sharing on training programmes for diplomats was signed during the visit. The two sides also agreed to set up an India-Ireland Joint Economic Commission. At an event organised at the University College of Dublin, EAM delivered the keynote address and interacted with prominent academicians and scholars and discussed perspectives on India and global affairs. EAM also interacted with the Indian community in Ireland, appreciating their rich contributions to Irish society. EAM met with his Irish counterpart Simon Harris TD at the sidelines of the G20 Foreign Minister Meeting on 24 February.



EAM with the then Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Tánaiste Simon Harris during an official visit to Ireland, March 2025

Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas led a high-level delegation comprising of senior legislators from Punjab, Jammu and Kashmir, UP, Rajasthan, Uttarakhand and Delhi to Ireland from 22-24 June for the Commemoration event held on 23 June marking the 40th Anniversary of the Air India Kanishka (AI 182) bombing.

Minister of Higher Education, Lawless visited India from 15-22 March as part of the St. Patrick's Day celebrations. A delegation of 7 Vice Chancellors from the leading Indian Universities visited Ireland in February.

Trade and Economic cooperation

Bilateral Trade (Goods and Services) between the two countries stood at USD 18.4 billion in 2024, with diversification in import and export baskets. India's total trade in goods with Ireland for April 2024-March 2025 is USD six billion, India's export to Ireland stood at USD 0.8 billion and imports from Ireland at USD 5.2 billion.

Education, Cultural cooperation and people to people exchanges

Under Ek Bharat Shresth Bharat initiative India conducted several commercial, cultural and tourism promotion activities focused on specific Sectors and States of India in various parts of Ireland during the year.

There are around 80,000 Indian diaspora members residing in Ireland mostly working in healthcare, IT, engineering and senior management positions. Ireland has also become a significant destination for Indian students (around 13,000) seeking higher education, particularly post-graduate, doctoral and post-doctoral students in the areas of engineering, technology, medicine and management.

Italy

India-Italy relations are on an upward trajectory with both sides taking concrete steps to implement the bilateral Joint Strategic Action Plan for 2025 to 2029 announced by Prime Minister and Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni in November, 2024. Regular dialogue between the two leaders, Ministerial visits and exchange of business delegations were instrumental in broadening and deepening bilateral cooperation across sectors. Italy has joined India led multilateral initiatives viz. India Middle East Europe economic corridor (IMEEC), Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), International Solar Alliance (ISA), Global Biofuel Alliance (GBA) and Indo Pacific Oceans Initiatives (IPOI).

High-level visits and meetings

Prime Minister met Prime Minister Meloni on the sidelines of the G7 meeting in Kananaskis, Canada on 18 June. On 24 April, Prime Minister Meloni had a phone call with Prime Minister and reiterated Italy's commitment to combat international terrorism, strengthen bilateral dialogue and joint actions to counter terrorism. Prime Minister Meloni was among the first world leaders to condemn the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, Kashmir on 22 April. On 10 September, Prime Minister had a phone call with Prime Minister Meloni and welcomed ongoing efforts towards implementation of the Joint Strategic Action Plan (JSAP 2025-29). Prime Minister Meloni reiterated Italy's strong support for early conclusion of a mutually beneficial India-EU Free Trade Agreement. On the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, South Africa, Prime Minister met Italian Prime Minister Giorgia Meloni. The 'India-Italy Joint Initiative to Counter Financing of Terrorism' was adopted.

EAM and Minister of Commerce and Industry along with Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani and Minister of University and Research Anna Maria Bernini co-chaired an inaugural India-Italy Business, Science and Technology forum on 11 April in New Delhi. Minister Tajani, was accompanied by nearly 100 Italian companies, six university rectors and Heads of six Italian research centres. The delegation had fruitful interactions with Indian companies and educational institutions. Minister Tajani also called on the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji of India during the visit. Minister Bernini met Minister of State for Science and Technology, Earth Sciences. A Memorandum of Understanding for cooperation in scientific research was signed. Both sides agreed to implement the 2025–2027 Executive Programme for Scientific and Technological Cooperation for collaboration in critical technologies such as AI and digitalization. The Joint Science and Technology Committee approved joint funding for 10 mobility related projects and 10 projects in research excellence.

EAM met Antonio Tajani on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly in New York, on 25 September. Minister Tajani conveyed Italy's support for an early finalisation of the India-EU FTA. Antonio Tajani visited India on 10-11 December and called on Prime Minister and Minister of Commerce and Industry and the National Security Advisor.

Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs visited Milan from 4-6 May to attend the 58th ADB Annual Meeting and met Italy's Finance Minister. Minister of Commerce and Industry along with Deputy Prime Minister Tajani co-chaired the 22nd India-Italy Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) on 4-5 June in Brescia,

Italy. Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying visited Italy from 28 September-1 October and interacted with the Italian seafood business association to explore ways of augmenting seafood exports to Italy.

Deputy Minister for Infrastructure and Transports Edoardo Rixi, accompanied by Italian companies visited India from 28-30 October to participate in the India Maritime Week in Mumbai. During the sidelines of maritime week, the Minister met the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways and Ministers of State for Railways and Urban Affairs, Under Secretary of State of Foreign Affairs, Maria Tripodi visited New Delhi on 17 February and met EAM and Minister of Commerce and Industry. Ambassador Francesco Talo, Italian Special Envoy for IMEEC participated in the first technical meeting of IMEC stakeholders in New Delhi on 5-6 August, hosted by India's National Security Council Secretariat. President of the Italian Republic Sergio Mattarella sent a letter of condolence to the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji of India following the tragic Air India crash in Ahmedabad on 12 June.

Parliamentary visits

An All-party Parliamentary delegation visited Italy from 27-29 May. The delegation conveyed India's strong national consensus and resolute approach on zero tolerance towards terrorism and conveyed appreciation to Italy for expression of solidarity with India in the fight against terrorism. The delegation met several parliamentarians including Presidents of the Foreign Affairs Committees in both Houses, President and members of the India-Italy Parliamentary Friendship Group and Maria Tripodi, Under Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs. They also interacted with think tanks, media, and members of the Indian community.

Other Visits

The Chief Justice of India visited Italy from 16-20 June to attend the Constitutional Law Conference organised by the Chamber of International Lawyers in Milan. Secretary (Agriculture and Farmers Welfare) visited Rome from 19-22 October and met Luigi D' Eramo, Italy's Under Secretary of State for Agriculture.

Trade and Economic Cooperation

Italy is India's fourth largest trading partner in the European Union with bilateral trade in FY 2024-25 standing at USD 13.75 billion. Trade balance is in India's favour with our exports to Italy standing at USD 7.73 billion. Italy ranked 19th in terms of FDI inflows into India during April 2000 to March 2025 which stood at USD 3.61 billion. A delegation from the Ministry of Food Processing Industries visited Milan and Bologna on 26- 28 June to meet Italian business chambers, CEOs of food processing companies and site visits.

Several Indian exporters participated in trade fairs and exhibitions in Italy including Artigiano in Fiera (29 May to 2 June), in Milan, Riva Schuh and Gardabags leather fair (14-17 June) in Riva del Garda, Vicenza Oro-Jewelry Boutique show (10-13 July and 5-9 September) in Vicenza, and Host Milano international exhibition (17-21 October) in Milan. Indian oil and gas PSUs participated in the Gastech Exhibition and Conference 2025 in Milan from 9-12 September.

Science and Technology

Italy was Country Partner at the fourth India Space Congress in New Delhi from 25–27 June with participation of the Italian Space Agency (ASI), and several space companies. An Italian space delegation comprising senior officials, Italian Space Agency and leading space companies visited India from 22-26 September for productive interactions with ISRO, Department of Space, Ministry of External Affairs, InSpace and Indian space companies, to explore G2G and B2B space collaborations.

Defence and Security Cooperation

Italy's Under Secretary of State for Defence, Italy Matteo Perego di Cremnago led Italy's official delegation to Aero India in February and interacted with Raksha Mantri and the Chief of Defence Staff. In March, the 13th India-Italy Military Cooperation

Group meeting was held in Rome to review military-to-military bilateral cooperation and prepare a plan of action for 2025-26.

Defence Secretary led the Indian delegation for the 11th India- Italy Joint Defence Committee (JDC) meeting in Rome on 14-15 April. A delegation of Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM) accompanying the Defence Secretary interacted with Italian defence companies. The Italian Federation of Aerospace, Defence and Security (AIAD) and SIDM signed a Memorandum of Understanding which would provide a framework for defence industrial collaborations.

Maritime cooperation and exchanges between the respective Navies continued with the Italian Navy Ship 'ITS MARCEGLIA' visiting Mumbai port in June. Indian Navy's Ship, INS TAMAL visited the port of Naples in August. INS TRIKAND visited the port of Taranto in September. Director General of Indian Coast Guard, visited Italy from 10-12 September to participate in the Coast Guard Global Summit hosted by Italy. His interaction with his Italian counterpart further strengthened India-Italy maritime security cooperation.

On 25 June, Embassy in collaboration with Italian think tank Institute of International Affairs organised the first India Dialogue on 'Indo-Pacific and the Enlarged Mediterranean,' with participation of strategic experts from both countries. India's growing ties with the EU and Italy, and India's economic rise and its strategic potential were the focus of discussions. The 5th Joint Working Group on counter-terrorism met in Rome on 15-16 January co-chaired by officials from the respective Foreign Ministries.

On 5 July, a memorial for Indian soldier Yeshwant Ghadge, was inaugurated in Montone, Italy. Ghadge had sacrificed his life for the liberation of Montone town during the Second World War. The memorial, supported by the Ministry of Defence, gives visibility to the bilateral historical ties and contribution of Indian soldiers to the liberation of Italy.

Education, Cultural and people to people exchanges

The number of Indian students enrolled in Italian Universities stands at 5,500. Most are enrolled in engineering, finance/economics, medicine. Universities with a large Indian student population are Politecnico di Milano (Milan); La Sapienza University (Rome); Tor Vergata University (Rome), Politecnico di Torino (Turin). Academic cooperation is an important aspect of diplomatic outreach with the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with the University of Bergamo in March to establish a Chair for Indology, supported by ICCR. On 2 April, an MoU was signed with the Luiss University in Rome for establishment of an ICCR Chair of Indian Studies. On 14 June, the Istituto Europeo di Design (IED), Italy's premier design school, signed a Letter of Intent (LoI) with India's Ministry of Education to open its branch campus in Mumbai. This agreement marks India's approval for IED to offer its Bachelor's degree programmes in India.

In February, the first five-day Indian Film Festival was held at several locations in Italy with screening of Indian films. In July a bronze bust of Maharishi Valmiki was unveiled in Camporotondo village. The bust was gifted by ICCR under the initiative, 'Connecting the world through Ramayana'.

A delegation from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting and NFDC participated in the Venice Film Festival in August and had interactions with Italian counterparts and stakeholders. A Networking event to promote WAVES Bazaar was held in Venice on 31 August. The Embassy, in collaboration with Teatro di Roma organised the 'Incredible India Cultural Festival' from 26-28 September at Teatro India, Rome which featured around 100 Indian and Italian artists based in Italy.

The Indian diaspora standing at around 1,86,000, is the largest in the EU and the second largest in Europe. Regular outreach programs were held to connect with members of the Indian community.

Luxembourg

India and Luxembourg enjoy warm and friendly relations characterized by a high degree of mutual understanding and cooperation at bilateral and multilateral levels. Luxembourg has an Embassy in New Delhi and Honorary Consuls in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Bengaluru. The Indian Embassy in Brussels is concurrently accredited to Luxembourg.

High-level engagements

Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji congratulated Guillaume V on his accession to the throne as the Grand Duke of Luxembourg in October.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Luxembourg Xavier Bettel visited India from 16-18 March for the Raisina Dialogue. During his visit he also met the EAM. The Minister of Commerce and Industry met with the Deputy PM and Foreign Minister of Luxembourg on the sidelines of Global Berlin Dialogue on 23 October.

Trade and Investment

Trade and investment comprise important elements of India-Luxembourg relations. India and Luxembourg have a Double Taxation Avoidance Treaty (DTAA), a Social Security Agreement, and a Civil Aviation Agreement, that lays the fundamental basis for enhanced bilateral economic and trade cooperation. Total trade with Luxembourg (2024-25) totalled EUR 97 million of which India's export was worth EUR 33 million and India's import totalled EUR 64 million. There have been significant FDI flows from Luxembourg to India, standing at USD 5.19 billion for the period April 2000 to March 2025.

Monaco

India and Monaco enjoy cordial relations and the two countries have gradually developed their relations in various fields. Blue economy, trade, tourism and taxation matters are some of the leading areas of cooperation.

On 8 June, Secretary (Ministry of Earth Sciences) attended the Blue Economic Finance Forum in Monaco, which was convened as a special event of the third UN Ocean Conference. The aim of the conference was to identify and mobilize solutions to support initiatives to promote the blue economy and conserve marine ecosystems.

Monaco hosts the International Hydrographic Organization (IHO), in which India has been an active and influential member since 1955. On 14-16 October, Chief Hydrographer to the Government of India, visited Monaco to attend the 9th meeting of the IHO Council.

The Netherlands

India and the Netherlands share a multifaceted relationship covering diverse areas of trade and investment, defence and security, renewable energy, water, agriculture, critical technologies and semiconductors, education and people to people ties. The Netherlands is the largest investor in India from Europe.

High-Level Exchanges

India and the Netherlands have regular contact at high levels. Prime Minister Schoof called and conveyed his condolences to Prime Minister in April on the Pahalgam terrorist attack. Prime Minister Schoof and Prime Minister had a meeting on the sidelines of G20 Summit in Johannesburg on 23 November.

EAM visited the Netherlands in May and met with Prime Minister Schoof, then Foreign Minister Veldkamp and Defence Minister Brekelmans. This followed the visit of then FM Caspar Veldkamp to India at the end of March. He met with EAM and NSA. EAM met with Foreign Minister David van Weel on the sidelines of 80th UNGA in New York in September.Foreign Minister of Netherlands David van Weel visited India on 17-19 December and had a meeting with Raksha Mantri, EAM, and NSA.

Defence Minister of the Netherlands Ruben Brekelmans visited India in February to participate in

the Raisina Dialogue. During the visit he also met with Raksha Mantri and NSA.

Minister of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands Robert Tieman visited India from 27-31 October and attended the India Maritime Week (IMW) 2025 held in Mumbai.

India and the Netherlands discuss issues covering the entire gamut of bilateral relations, through annual consultations led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on both sides at Secretary level. The 13th India-Netherlands Foreign Office Consultations were held on 4 December in New Delhi co-chaired by Secretary (West) and Secretary General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands.

The two sides have ongoing Joint Working Groups (JWGs)/Dialogues at functional level in the fields of (i) Science and Technology (ii) Agriculture (iii) Healthcare (iv) Urban Development (vi) Counter Terrorism (vii) Maritime Cooperation (viii) Water (ix) Policy Planning (x) Cyber Dialogue (xi) Consular.

Trade and Commerce

The Netherlands is India's 10th largest trading partner in the world. The Netherlands is also the third largest export destination for India in the world and the largest in Europe. During the F.Y. 2024-2025, the total merchandise trade with the Netherlands stood at USD 27.779 billion. The total merchandise trade with the Netherlands accounts for 2.45 percent of India's total merchandise trade. The Netherlands is India's largest merchandise export destination in Europe and third largest in the world. In the F.Y. 2024-2025, India exported USD 22.761 billion worth of goods to the Netherlands.

Netherlands is the fourth largest investor in India. The cumulative Dutch investments in India from 2000 onwards are around 54 billion dollars. Indian companies are also investing in the Netherlands in a big way, with a total investment of USD 26 billion. Netherlands is now the fourth largest destination for Overseas Direct Investment (ODI) by Indian companies. There are over 300 Dutch companies present in India, including major players like Philips, Signify, Akzo Nobel, DSM, KLM, Rabobank, Heineken, TomTom, Paques, Boskalis, Van Oord, Damen Shipyards, Vopak, Aegon, etc. Similarly, there are over 300 Indian companies present in the Netherlands, including all the major IT companies such as TCS, HCL, Wipro, Infosys, Tech Mahindra, as well as Tata Steel and others.

Collaboration in Other Sectors

The India-Netherlands have a Strategic Partnership on Water. The Netherlands is engaged with various States and Municipalities in India to implement water related projects including the States of UP (Namami Ganga Programme), Tamil Nadu (water as leverage, water management and conservation) and Kerala (flood management).

India and Netherlands are also collaborating in the domain of maritime cooperation as well as in the establishment of a Green and Digital Sea Corridor between India and Netherlands. Both sides are cooperating in the field of healthcare and public health as well as food safety, pharmaceuticals, medical devices.

In the domain of agriculture, both sides have set an ambitious agenda to establish 25 CoEs by 2025 in the Agri sector, nine out of which are already functional. The two countries are also cooperating in the domain of capacity building in horticulture. The eighth meeting of the Joint Agricultural Working Group (JAWG) between India and the Netherlands was held on 31 October in New Delhi.

The Second meeting of the India–Netherlands Joint Working Group (JWG) was held in Mumbai on 30 October. An LoI was signed between the Inland Waterways Authority of India and the Netherlands on training for dredging and river engineering. Another LoI on Green and Digital Shipping Corridors was signed.

India and Netherlands are cooperating in several new domains like maritime cultural heritage, semiconductors and emerging technologies, digital

and cyber space, establishment of a joint trade and investment committee and cooperation in higher education.

The Second India-Netherlands Consular Dialogue was hosted by India in New Delhi on 9 October.

People-to-people ties

The Netherlands has the largest population of people of Indian origin in the EU. It is home to approx. 90,000 people of Indian origin. Besides this there is a sizable Surinamese Hindustani community now completely integrated in Dutch society, which is estimated to be approx. 200,000 strong. The Netherlands is a popular education destination for Indian students, particularly in the field of science and technology. Many Dutch Universities like TU Delft, Leiden University and Maastricht University have long standing collaboration with Indian universities. The number of Indian students has been growing over the years and more than 3500 Indian students are studying in the Netherlands presently.

Portugal

India and Portugal share warm and cordial relations based on historical maritime linkages, diaspora and cultural connections. In 2025, the two countries commemorated the 50th anniversary of re-establishment of diplomatic relations. There is steady momentum in our bilateral ties, with continuing high-level interactions and cooperation across several sectors. Several events in diverse areas ranging from Literature, Academic, Arts and Sports, Ayurveda, Yoga Film Festivals and Film Screenings were organised to commemorate this milestone in diplomatic relations. Portugal supports India's candidature for permanent membership at the reformed UN security council and is staunch proponent of India- EU relations.

High-level visits and meetings

The highlight of this year was the State Visit by Hon'ble Rasthrapatiji from 6-8 April. During the visit, she met with President Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa. Both the Presidents also launched postage stamps commemorating 50 years of diplomatic relations between the two countries. She also met with the President of Portuguese Parliament José Pedro Aguiar-Branco. Prime Minister of Portugal Luis Montenegro called on the President.

Speaker of Lok Sabha paid a visit to Lisbon in June and met with President (Speaker) of the Assembly of the Republic of Portugal Jose Pedro Aguiar-Branco.

Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs paid a visit to Portugal on 2-3 July and met Minister of Finance of Portugal Joaquim José Miranda Sarmento. Secretary of State of Agriculture Joao Moura led a 10 member Portuguese delegation to World Food India 2025 in September.

Trade and Economic cooperation

Bilateral trade for 2024-25 was worth USD 1.12 billion with Indian exports worth USD 920.24 million and imports from Portugal worth USD 206.11 million. Bilateral trade balance also continued to be in India's favour at USD 714.33 million. Portugal ranks 52nd in Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) into India, with total FDI inflows amounting to USD 126.31 million as of June. Indian investments in Portugal are estimated to be in the range of up to USD 500 million.

There has been exchange of commercial delegations between India and Portugal. During the annual tourism fair - Bolsa de Turismo Lisboa, India and Goa booth was set up in Lisbon on 12-13 March in collaboration with four tourism and tour operator companies from India. Minister of Sports, Arts and Culture of Goa inaugurated India and Goa booths. The event formed part of the commemoration of the 50th anniversary of re-establishment of diplomatic relations between India and Portugal and also aimed at promotion of Indian films.

Many commercial delegations from Portugal also visited India. The Secretary of State of Agriculture, Joao Moura led a 10-member Portuguese delegation to World Food India 2025, which was held in New Delhi in September. There was Portuguese participation (5 entities), including representatives from PIBHub in WAVES 2025 that was held in Mumbai in May.

Representatives of the prominent textile producers in Portugal also participated in Bharat Tex 2025 held from 14-17 February in New Delhi.

Celebration of 50th anniversary of re-establishment of diplomatic relations

The year-long commemoration of the 50th anniversary of re-establishment of diplomatic relations officially began in Portugal on 3 January with an Indian film festival organised by Embassy of India in the historic Cinema São Jorge in Lisbon. The festival was inaugurated by the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Portugal Paulo Rangel.

On 21 March, Mission organised the launch of the Hindi translation of the book of poems titled 'Mensagem' by the Portuguese poet Fernando Pessoa, in collaboration with ICCR, Instituto Camões and Grupo O Valor do Tempo. On 28 March, a conference on 'Indians in Portugal - Advancement of Science and Technology' was organised in collaboration with Bhoomi Portugal.

A two-day Indian film festival was organised in Sao Miguel islands of the Azores archipelago on 24-25 October. This was the first ever Indian film festival organised in the Azores Archipelago. A Bollywood and saree workshop was also held as part of the film festival. On 21 October, an interaction was organised with the acclaimed filmmaker Tanvi Gandhi on the evolution of Indian cinema, women empowerment and new technologies in the entertainment industry.

Institutional Dialogue Mechanisms

Both countries engaged through regular dialogue and exchanges under institutional mechanisms which significantly contributed to steady progress in the bilateral relationship across several sectors. The sixth Joint Economic Committee meeting was held on 23 January. Both sides held discussions on economic cooperation across sectors including trade and investment, tourism, defence, science and technology, infrastructure, renewable energy, water and sanitation, maritime cooperation and blue economy, health, pharmaceuticals and ayurveda, agriculture and food processing and labour mobility. The second Joint Working Group Meeting on Renewable Energy between Portugal and India took place in June.

The Fifth India-Portugal FOC was held in Lisbon on 3 November. Secretary (West) also called on by Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Portugal Ana Isabel Xavier to strengthen political dialogue and expand cooperation in trade, education and mobility.

Portuguese Secretary of State of Agriculture Joao Moura led a 10-member delegation to World Food India 2025, held in New Delhi in September.

Education, Cultural Cooperation and People to People Exchanges

Speaker of the Lok Sabha launched the 10th anniversary celebration of the International Day of Yoga in Portugal on 7 June, in four cities of Lisbon, Porto, Montemor-o-Novo, and Horta in Faial Island, Azores. On 21 June, the commemoration of International Day of Yoga was organised in front of the iconic Belem tower in Lisbon, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. In March, the second International Ayurveda Congress was held in collaboration with Portuguese Ayurveda Association Amayur.

On 12 October, the state of Uttar Pradesh was conferred with the Best Spiritual Tourism Destination Award at the Seven Stars Luxury Hospitality and Lifestyle Awards. From 10-13 November, a delegation led by NASSCOM composed of around 10 companies participated in the Websummit 2025, the annual technology conference held in Lisbon, and called on Minister of Infrastructure and Housing of Portugal Miguel Pinto Luz.

The 50th anniversary of re-establishment of bilateral relations was celebrated through a conference titled 'Culture and Globalisation' organised by University of Lisbon and Jain University, Bengaluru On 13 October. The first ever Indian film festival was organised in Sao Miguel islands in the Azores Archipelago on 24-25 October. Vice President of the Portuguese Parliament Marcos Perestrello inaugurated a film festival- Ritwik Ghatak retrospective in December.

Portugal has a large Indian-origin diaspora estimated to number around 1,20,000 spread across regions

and representing different communities and religions. There are approximately around 1100 Indian students in Portugal, mostly in Masters and PhD programmes, in STEM and other areas such as social sciences. Predominantly students undertake Masters in Business Administration, Data Science, Industrial Engineering, Sociology-Anthropology and disciplines such as biotechnology. The year saw a steady increase in the number of Portuguese tourists travelling to India. About 90,000 Portuguese visited India in 2025 while about 38,000 Indians visited Portugal.

San Marino

Relations with San Marino remained cordial and friendly. Both the countries have established a fruitful cooperation, particularly within international fora, but also at a bilateral level on issues of common interest. The year 2025 also marked the 60th anniversary of establishment of consular relations between India and San Marino.

San Marino has been supportive of India's candidatures at multilateral bodies. They have supported India's candidature to the non-permanent seat of the UNSC for 2028-29 and for election to membership of United Nations Economic and Social Council for the term 2026-28.

International day of Yoga was organized at Cava dei Balestrieri, a historical landmark in the city of San Marino on 13 June with the support of the Government of San Marino and in collaboration with several Yoga Schools. To commemorate the 60th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations with San Marino, an Indian Film Festival was organized in San Marino on 12 May.

Spain

Relations with Spain remained strong covering diverse areas of defence, trade, urban mobility, tourism and cultural cooperation. The ties between Spain and India began on a high-note with the landmark visit of EAM to Spain in January, which came within three months of the highly successful visit of President Pedro Sanchez to India in October 2024.

High-level visits

EAM visited Spain on 13 and 14 January. During his visit, EAM held talks with Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares and Defence Minister Margarita Robles and also called on King Felipe VI and President Pedro Sanchez. He became the first foreign guest to address the Conference of Spanish Ambassadors. Two MoUs on cooperation in sports, and in Sustainable Urban Development, were signed during the visit.

Institutional Dialogue Mechanisms

The India-Spain Foreign Office Consultations were held in New Delhi on 13 November between Secretary (West) and Secretary of State for Foreign and Global Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, European Union, and Cooperation of Spain, Diego Martínez Belío.

Minister of State Law & Justice visited Spain from 12-14 November to participate in the Justice Leaders Dialogue held as part of the Global Round-table on Equal Access to Justice, organized by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), and co-hosted by the Spanish Ministry of the Presidency, Justice, and Parliamentary Relations.



EAM and Foreign Minister Jose Manuel Albares signed two MoUs during the former's visit to Madrid, January 2025.

Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs visited Spain for the fourth United Nations Conference on Financing for Development which took place in Seville from 30 June-3 July. Minister of Road Transport and Highways visited Spain in February. Minister

of Culture and Minister of Tourism participated in the World Conference on Cultural Policies and Sustainable Development (MONDIACULT 2025), held in Barcelona, Spain, on 29 September.

The All-Party Parliamentary Delegation for Operation Sindoor visited Spain from 30 May- 2 June, to express India's firm stance on zero tolerance for terrorism.

Chief Ministers of Jharkhand and Madhya Pradesh visited Spain in April and July respectively with business delegations to promote Spanish investment in their respective states.

Defence Cooperation

The cornerstone of India-Spain defence cooperation remains the C-295 military transport aircraft programme, a USD 2.5 billion project involving Airbus Spain and Tata Advanced Systems Limited. The 16th and final aircraft manufactured in Spain under the programme was delivered ahead of schedule on 31 July. Defence Diplomacy has been further advanced through academic and institutional exchanges. In October, a 22-member delegation of future strategic leaders from India's College of Defence Management (CDM), Secunderabad, visited Spain. Also, IAF as the first non-NATO country Air Force took part in Ex OCEAN SKY 2025 at Gran Canaria, Spain, from 20-31 October. The Spanish frigate CSDS Méndez Núñez made a Port Call in Mumbai on 18 September. It also held Passage Exercise with INS Teg.

The Indian Air Force (IAF) became the first non-NATO air force to participate in Spain's major multinational air combat exercise, Exercise Ocean Sky, held at Gando Air Base, Canary Islands, from 15-31 October. The Indian contingent operated alongside units from Spain, Germany, Greece, Portugal, and the United States, with over 50 aircrafts participating in total.

Commercial and Economic Cooperation

Commercial ties between India and Spain continue to strengthen, with bilateral trade in goods reaching a record USD 8.77 billion in 2024, reflecting a 5.7 percent growth over the previous year. Similarly in 2024, exports from India experienced a year-on-year increase of 2.5 percent reaching USD 6.52 billion, whereas imports from Spain showed a year-on-year increase of 16.5 percent reaching USD 2.25 billion. Spain is the 16th largest investor in India with cumulative FDI stock of USD 4.3 billion (April 2000 – June 2025). There are more than 280 Spanish companies in India mainly in the sectors of metallurgical industries, renewable energy, automotive, ceramics, defence, infrastructure and retail and consumer products. Similarly, around 80 Indian companies with a cumulative investment of around USD 900 million are active in Spain, mainly in software and IT services, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, logistics and import-export sectors.

Cultural Cooperation

A wide range of activities in the ambit of culture were undertaken through the year. The exhibition Mystic Paths: The Living Tradition of Indian Art, organized collaboratively by MOSA (Belgium), the Museo de Antropología (Madrid), and the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), was held from 31 January-20 April. The second edition of Óle India was held in Madrid on 15th March, featuring over 160 performers and attracting more than 1,200 attendees. India was the Guest Country at the Feria del Pimiento Morrón in Fresno de la Vega.

The twinning agreement between Ahmedabad and Valladolid, originally signed in 2017, was renewed and expanded on 15 September. This agreement fosters cooperation in cultural, educational, technological, and social fields, reflecting shared values of heritage preservation, tourism, gastronomy, innovation, artificial intelligence and sustainable development.

United Kingdom

This was a landmark year in the India-UK Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, with back to back bilateral visits at the Prime Ministerial level, to London in July and to Mumbai in October. The year saw the signing of India-UK FTA; adoption of Vision 2035; announcement of a Defence Industrial Roadmap; inauguration of Gurugram campus of Southampton University, first foreign university to open campus in

India under New Education Policy, while eight other UK universities were granted approvals to open campuses in India; and the inauguration of two new Consulates General of India in the UK in Manchester and Belfast.

India-UK relations advanced with the UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer's first visit to India in October, focusing on the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) signed in July. He visited with one of the largest business and arts delegations in recent UK history. During his visit, Prime Minister Starmer delivered the keynote address at the Global Fintech Fest in Mumbai on 9 October in the presence of Prime Minister. The UK Prime Minister's visit coincided with the port call of UK's Carrier Strike Group and the Royal Navy's exercise KONKAN with the Indian Navy, which was the first instance of complex, multivector naval exercises between Indian Navy and Royal Navy.

Ahmedabad, Gujarat, was confirmed as host for the 2030 Centenary Commonwealth Games on 26 November at the General Assembly in Glasgow, Scotland. Separately, India was re-elected to the IMO Council for 2026-27 in Category B with a record 154/169 votes at the 34th Assembly in London on 28 November topping this category of Council membership for the second straight term.

High-Level Exchanges

Prime Minister visited the United Kingdom on 23-24 July. Prime Minister also called on King Charles III. Within three months of Prime Minister's historic visit to the UK, the UK Prime Minister Keir Starmer visited Mumbai on 8–9 October with a 125-member strong, largest ever, business delegation from UK to India.

Key announcements during Prime Minister's visit to the UK included the Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), the India-UK Vision 2035, the Defence Industrial Roadmap, the MoU between India's CBI and the UK's National Crime Agency. Major outcomes of the UK Prime Minister visit entailed meeting of reconstituted India–UK CEO Forum, resetting of India–UK Joint Economic and Trade Committee (JETCO), and establishment of India–UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre, India–UK Joint Centre for AI, Establishment of Critical Minerals Industry Guild, Launch of phase II of UK–India Critical Minerals Supply Chain Observatory and Establishment of Offshore Wind Taskforce.

Both the Prime Ministers held telephone call on April 26 where Prime Minister Starmer expressed horror and strong condemnation of the Pahalgam terror attack. They also spoke on 6 May to announce the conclusion of the landmark India–UK Free Trade Agreement (FTA). They interacted on the sidelines of the G7 Summit on June 17 in Kananaskis, Canada.

Lok Sabha Speaker visited the UK from 7-11 January. He met with Commons Speaker Hoyle and Lords Speaker Lord McFall of Alcluith. He visited Scotland and met Alison Johnstone MSP, Presiding Officer of the Scottish Parliament, and John Swinney MSP, First Minister of Scotland and interacted with cross-party Members of the Scottish Parliament. On 10 January, He chaired the meeting of the Standing Committee of Conference of Speakers and Presiding Officers of the Commonwealth (CSPOC) in Guernsey.

EAM paid a bilateral visit from 3-9 March. During the visit, EAM called on Prime Minister Keir Starmer and met the Foreign Secretary, Deputy Prime Minister, Business and Trade Secretary and Home Secretary. He inaugurated two new Consulates General of India in Manchester and Belfast at that time, bringing our diplomatic presence up to five posts in the United Kingdom. He also met Deputy First Minister of Northern Ireland. EAM met Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the UK Yvette Cooper at the sidelines of UNGA in September. The then UK Foreign Secretary David Lammy visited India on 7-8 June.

Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs visited the UK in April for the 13th Economic and Financial Dialogue. Secretary of State for Business and Trade Jonathan Reynolds visited in February on his first visit as Secretary of State to resume FTA negotiations. Minister of Commerce and Industry visited London in April, May and June, to finalise negotiations for India–UK FTA.

NSA visited London from 30 June to 1 July, for the India-UK Strategic Dialogue on security and emerging technologies. UK NSA Jonathan Powell visited India from 17-19 March for the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi.

An all-party Indian Parliamentary delegation visited the UK from 31 May to 3 June, to express India's firm stance on zero tolerance for terrorism and highlight Pakistan's role in cross-border attacks.

Minister of Law and Justice and Chief Justice also visited the UK during the year. UK Secretary of State for Culture Lisa Nandy visited India in May, to attend the WAVES Summit in Mumbai. India and the UK signed a bilateral Cultural Cooperation Agreement during the visit. UK Defence Minister of State Lord Vernon Coaker visited India on 10 February.

A high-level delegation led by Minister of Large and Medium Industries of Karnataka, visited London from 24-26 November to attract fresh investments from major UK-based companies. Minister met UK Minister for Commonwealth Affairs and Development Seema Malhotra and engaged with leaders of major global companies such as Martin-Baker, ARM, Linde, Fido AI, Oxford Space Systems, and others. The delegation also participated in the UK-India Business Council meeting.

Delegation from various State Governments participated in the World Travel Market (WTM) London 2025, a global travel and tourism event. Participating States included Jammu & Kashmir, Ladakh, Delhi, Goa, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, and Madhya Pradesh. The event was held from 4-6 November at ExCeL London which brought together over 5,000 exhibitors and 45,000 industry professionals worldwide to network, showcase destinations, explore travel trends, and promote sustainable tourism.

Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh visited London on 3 November. He held meetings with companies including Octopus Energy, Rolls Royce, SRAM and SAMKO Group, in addition to participating in a round table organised by CII. Chief Minister of Assam visited London on 17 November for the signing of a Letter of Intent with the British Museum for the loan of Vrindavani Vastra to the Government of Assam for public display. He also toured the Regent Canal Waterfront Development project.

Foreign Secretary met UK NSA Jonathan Powell and Deputy NSA Matthew Collins during his visit in November.

UK Minister for the Indo-Pacific, Seema Malhotra, made her first official visit to India from 20 to 22 November, to strengthen the UK-India partnership, focusing on trade, investment, and strategic cooperation and emphasized the importance of fostering cultural ties, including the UK's"living bridge" with India.

There were several visits from Indian State governments to the UK. Chief Minister of West Bengal visited UK in March. Minister of State for Sports and Youth Service, Government of Gujarat, travelled to the UK three times, in June, August and September to present India's bid for hosting the 2030 Commonwealth Games. India's bid was formally accepted by the Commonwealth Sport Executive Committee in October. Minister of Cultural Affairs, Government of Maharashtra visited the UK in August. During this visit, he formally received the historic 18th-century sword of Maratha general Raghuji Bhosale I, repatriated from London to Maharashtra. Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu accompanied by Industries Minister and senior officials, visited the UK in September. A delegation led by Minister of Higher Education and Minister for Medical Education, Government of Karnataka visited the UK in September. Minister for Information Technology, Electronics and Communications, Real Time Governance (RTG), and Human Resources Development (HRD) for the Government of Andhra Pradesh, visited the UK in September.

Economic Relations

The historic India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA) was signed during the visit of Prime Minister to the UK in July. CETA provides an unprecedented duty-free access to 99 per cent of India's exports to the UK, and 91 per cent of UK's exports covering nearly 100 per cent

of the trade value. This includes labour-intensive sectors such as textiles, leather, marine products, gems and jewellery, and toys as well as high-growth sectors like engineering goods, chemicals, and auto components. India will remove tariffs on 90 percent tariff lines, signaling a substantial tariff for food and drink, as well as advanced manufacturing exports. In the services sector, the agreement includes a wide-ranging package covering Information Technology /IT enabled services, financial and professional services, business consulting, education, telecom, architecture, and engineering.

India and UK held the inaugural meeting of the reconstituted India–UK CEO Forum on 9 October. Both countries also reset the India–UK Joint Economic Trade Committee (JETCO) which will support the implementation of the CETA and drive economic growth and job creation in both countries. India–UK bilateral trade (both goods and services) stood at over USD 56 billion in 2024. Out of the above, India's total imports from the UK amounted to USD 23 billion and India's total exports amounted to USD 34 billion.

Defence Cooperation

Both India and the UK have robust defence relations exemplified through regular interaction at highest levels as well as through institutional dialogues such as Defence Consultative Group (DCG) meeting at the level of Defence Secretary.

During the visit to the UK of Prime Minister in July, a new Roadmap for Defence Industrial Cooperation was signed. This Roadmap will align with the renewed 'Vision 2035' and promote collaboration in co-design, co-development and co-production in the Defence sector. UK Carrier Strike Group (CSG) visited India in early October. Led by aircraft carrier HMS Prince of Wales, it successfully completed the sea phase of the bilateral maritime exercise KONKAN-25 with the Indian Navy and IN aircraft carrier off the western coast of India, including cross deck landings. The UK and India held the eighth edition of their biennial army exercise, Ajeya Warrior-2025, in November at 'Mahajan Field Firing Ranges' in Rajasthan.

Technology and Innovation

Under the Technology Security Initiative (TSI), the two sides agreed to establish India-UK Connectivity and Innovation Centre, the India-UK joint Centre for AI and announced the Phase-two of the UK-India Critical Minerals Supply Chain Observatory to expand Mineral coverage, further integrate advanced technologies, unlock new bilateral investment opportunities and establish a new satellite campus at IIT-ISM Dhanbad.

Both sides also released an anniversary statement on TSI during Prime Minister's visit to the UK in July.

Education

Southampton University became the first foreign university to open a campus in India. Its Gurugram campus was inaugurated in July and it has welcomed its first cohort of students. Apart from Southampton University, eight other UK universities were granted permission to open campuses in India. These include Queen's University, Belfast, University of Surrey, Coventry University at GIFT City, Gujarat; University of Liverpool and University of Lancaster at Bengaluru and University of Bristol, University of York, University of Aberdeen at Mumbai.

Indian students are one of the largest cohorts of international students in the UK. As per latest data from Higher Education Statistics Agency, UK, there were 166,310 Indian students in Academic Year 2023-24.

Diaspora

The UK has about 1.864 million Indian diaspora as per the 2021 Census and forms 3.1 percent of the total population of UK, which is 59.597 million.

CHAPTER

9

The Americas

North America

United States of America

As sovereign, vibrant democracies, India and the United States of America (USA) share a deep belief in freedom, the rule of law, human rights, and pluralism. The India–US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership reflects a strong commitment to these shared values and to future-oriented cooperation. The partnership has benefited from enduring bipartisan support in both countries, underscoring its strategic significance and the broad-based public goodwill it enjoys.

Regular leadership-level engagements have provided continuity and strategic guidance, including the visit of Prime Minister to Washington, D.C. in February 2025. Prime Minister was among the first global leaders to hold a bilateral meeting with President Donald J. Trump, underscoring the priority attached to this relationship at the highest levels. Subsequent ministerial and official interactions have continued to reinforce shared priorities and advance cooperation across sectors.



Prime Minister and President of the United States of America US Donald J. Trump addressed a press conference at the White House in Washington D.C., February 2025.

Today, the India-US partnership is anchored in more than fifty dialogue mechanisms spanning across diverse domains including foreign policy, defence, trade, finance, energy, health, education, and space. These institutionalised engagements—complemented

by active exchanges among think-tank communities on both sides and regular visits by Members of the US Congress and their staff—have ensured sustained cooperation and steady progress across sectors critical to national development and global stability, while remaining responsive to evolving challenges and emerging opportunities.

Defence and security cooperation has advanced significantly, with a focus on co-production, co-development, industrial partnerships, and increasingly sophisticated joint military exercises. The shared commitment to strategic technology collaboration found expression in the TRUST (Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology) initiative, seeking to unlock new opportunities for co-innovation and resilient supply chains. Both sides are also negotiating the first tranche of a mutually beneficial, multi-sector Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA), aimed at deepening economic integration and facilitating balanced, job-creating growth.

People-to-people ties continue to constitute a vital pillar of the partnership. The Indian diaspora in the United States, along with expanding linkages in education, innovation, science and technology, and culture, provides a dynamic and resilient foundation for bilateral cooperation. These human connections further enrich the strategic partnership by fostering trust, familiarity, and enduring friendship between the two societies.

High-Level Interactions

At the invitation of US President Donald J. Trump, the Prime Minister visited Washington, D.C. on 12–13 February for an Official Working Visit. This was the Prime Minister's first visit to the US, following President Trump's inauguration for a second term. During the visit, the two leaders jointly launched the US–India COMPACT (Catalysing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology) for the 21st Century, aimed at driving transformative collaboration across key pillars of bilateral cooperation, including Defence, Trade and Investment, Energy Security, Technology and Innovation, Multilateral Cooperation, and People-to-People ties.

The Prime Minister also held meetings with the then National Security Advisor Michael Waltz, Director of National Intelligence Tulsi Gabbard, the then Head of the Department of Government Efficiency and CEO of Tesla Elon Musk and Vivek Ramaswamy.

The Prime Minister and President Trump held a telephonic conversation on 22 April, during which President Trump strongly condemned the terror attack in Jammu & Kashmir and conveyed his condolences and full support to India in bringing the perpetrators to justice. The two leaders also held subsequent telephone conversations on 18 June, 16 September, 9 October, 22 October and 11 December and have remained in regular contact through public and private communications, including via social media.

Prime Minister met US Vice President J.D. Vance on 11 February, on the sidelines of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit in France. Both sides held an initial exchange of views on emerging technology cooperation.

Vice President Vance paid an Official Visit to India on 21–24 April, accompanied by Second Lady Usha Vance, their children, and senior members of the US Administration. This was Vice President Vance's first visit to India. The Prime Minister hosted the Vice President at his residence, where they reviewed progress across key areas of bilateral cooperation and exchanged views on regional and global developments of mutual interest. During the visit, Vice President Vance also travelled to Jaipur and Agra.



Prime Minister met US Vice President J.D. Vance on the sidelines of the Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit in Paris, February 2025.

Ministerial Engagements and Bilateral Dialogues

Raksha Mantri and US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth held three telephonic conversations during the year, on 6 February, 1 May and 1 July. Separately, they met in person on 31 October on the sidelines of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM+) in Kuala Lumpur and signed the India–US 10-Year Major Defence Partnership Framework Agreement.



Raksha Mantri met US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on the sidelines of the ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus (ADMM+) held in Kuala Lumpur, October 2025.

At the invitation of the Trump–Vance Inaugural Committee, EAM represented the Prime Minister as his Special Envoy at the Presidential Inauguration and Swearing-In Ceremony on 20 January. During the visit, he held productive meetings with key members of the incoming US Administration, including Secretary of State Marco Rubio, as well as the then National Security Advisor Michael Waltz, and Co-Chair of the Senate India Caucus Senator Mark Warner.

EAM again visited Washington D.C. for the Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting on 1 July, during which he called on Vice President Vance and held bilateral discussions with Secretary of State Marco Rubio, Secretary of War Pete Hegseth, Secretary of Energy Chris Wright, Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Director Kash Patel, and Director of National Intelligence (DNI) Tulsi Gabbard. EAM also met Secretary Rubio on the margins of the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly (UNGA) in New York on 22 September, on the sidelines of the 20th East Asia Summit in Kuala Lumpur on 26 October and during the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting in Canada on 12 November.



EAM held a bilateral meeting with Secretary of State Marco Rubio in New York, September 2025.

Commerce and Industry Minister (CIM) visited the US on 3–6 March, 17–24 May, and 22–24 September for trade negotiations and bilateral engagements. During his visits, he held discussions with US Commerce Secretary Howard Lutnick and United States Trade Representative (USTR) Jamieson Greer.

Finance Minister visited San Francisco on 20–21 April, where she met senior leadership of US technology firms including Google Cloud, VMware, DataRobot, and Turing. During her visit, she also delivered remarks at the Hoover Institution, Stanford University and engaged with members of the Indian diaspora community.

At the invitation of the United States, MoS (KVS) attended the Gaza Peace Summit at Sharm el-Sheikh on 13 October as a Special Representative of the Prime Minister.

As a follow-up to the Prime Minister's visit in February, Foreign Secretary and Deputy National Security Advisor visited Washington, D.C. on 27–29 May for detailed discussions on implementation of the US–India COMPACT. The Foreign Secretary held wide-ranging consultations with senior leadership across the Departments of State, Defence, Treasury, and Commerce, and the National Security Council.

A multi-party Parliamentary Delegation led by a senior member of the Parliament, visited Washington D.C. on 3–6 June and engaged with Members of Congress, think tanks, and the media on matters including Operation Sindoor, cross-border terrorism, and regional security. The delegation also called on Vice President Vance and held discussions with US Deputy Secretary of State Christopher Landau.

The India–US Foreign Office Consultations, led by Foreign Secretary and US Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs Allison Hooker, were held in New Delhi on 9 December. Both sides undertook a comprehensive review of the India–US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership and the implementation of the India–U.S. COMPACT for the 21st Century, and exchanged views on regional and global developments.



Foreign Secretary and US Under Secretary Allison Hooker co-chaired the India–US Foreign Office Consultations held in New Delhi, December 2025.

The year also witnessed several high-level incoming visits. US DNI Tulsi Gabbard visited India on 17–19 March to participate in the Raisina Dialogue. She called on the Prime Minister and held bilateral meetings with the Raksha Mantri, EAM, and National Security Advisor.



EAM met US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth in Washington DC, July 2025.

US Ambassador-designate to India Sergio Gor and Deputy Secretary for Management and Resources Michael J. Rigas visited India on 9–14 October and called on the Prime Minister, EAM, and the National Security Advisor, and separately met Foreign Secretary and Commerce Secretary.

Additionally, multiple US Congressional delegations visited India during the year, including - a delegation of Congressional Chiefs of Staff on 24–31 May, bipartisan delegation of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence led by Reps. Brian Fitzpatrick and Chrissy Houlahan on 20–21 August, visit by Congressman Michael Baumgartner on 20–29 August and a five-member delegation led by Rep. Ami Bera on 21–26 September.

Governors of Iowa and New Jersey - Kim Reynolds and Phil Murphy, also visited India on 7–13 September and 18–24 September, respectively.

Economic and Commercial Relations

As per US Census data, during January–December 2025, the two-way India–US merchandise trade reached USD 149.43 billion, registering a 11.05% growth over the corresponding period in the previous year (2024). India's merchandise exports to the US in 2025 stood at USD 103.82 billion, reflecting a growth of 18.87%, while imports from the US reached USD 45.61 billion, an increase of 9.8% over the same period last year, 2024.

The United States remains India's third-largest source of foreign direct investment (FDI), with cumulative FDI inflows of USD 77.27 billion from April 2000 to September 2025. During the period April–September 2025, FDI inflows from the United States amounted to USD 6.6 billion, accounting for approximately 19 per cent of India's total FDI equity inflows. As per estimates over 2,000 US companies are currently operating in India. According to the latest 'Indian Roots, American Soil' report published by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), cumulative Indian investment in the United States stood at approximately USD 40 billion as of 2023, undertaken by around 160 Indian companies.

US-origin Global Capability Centres (GCCs) constitute the largest and most strategically significant segment of India's GCC ecosystem. Of the approximately 1,700–1,800 GCCs currently operating in India, an estimated 55–60 percent are established by US-headquartered companies, reflecting deep commercial integration and long-term confidence in India's talent and innovation ecosystem. In 2025 alone, US firms are estimated to have set up over 60 new GCCs across major Indian cities, with a marked shift towards high-value activities. These centres increasingly focus on advanced engineering, product development, artificial intelligence (AI), data analytics, cybersecurity, healthcare technology, financial services, and global business transformation, moving well beyond traditional back-office functions.

US GCCs have emerged as critical nodes in global innovation networks, supporting core business operations, driving R&D, and anchoring India's role as a trusted partner in global technology and services value chains.

During the Prime Minister's visit to Washington, D.C. in February, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral trade and economic cooperation in a manner that advances fairness, national security, resilience, and job creation in both countries. The leaders agreed to set an ambitious new target, 'Mission 500', to more than double bilateral trade to USD 500 billion by 2030. Recognising that achieving this shared ambition would require updated and mutually beneficial trade arrangements, the two sides announced the launch of negotiations for a multi-sector Bilateral Trade Agreement (BTA). Since then, the two sides have engaged in intensive discussions to finalise the initial tranche of the Agreement.

Despite substantive progress in negotiations on 31 July, the US imposed reciprocal tariffs on certain goods exported by several countries, including India, invoking national emergency authorities under the International Emergency Economic Powers Act (IEEPA). Subsequently, on 27 August an additional 25 per cent ad-valorem duty was imposed on select Indian exports under IEEPA, citing India's importation of Russian oil. In parallel, the US also imposed sector-specific tariffs under Section 232 of the Trade Expansion Act on products including steel and aluminium, copper, upholstered furniture and kitchen cabinets, softwood, and automobiles.

At the same time, several categories of goods and services - including crude oil and petroleum products, pharmaceuticals, bullion, certain electronic items, precious metals, critical minerals, resins and plastics, agricultural products, and IT services—have not been subject to these additional tariffs. Based on 2024 trade data, approximately USD 47.2 billion of India's merchandise exports to the United States, out of a total of about USD 86.4 billion, fall within tariff-affected categories.

Notwithstanding these developments, negotiations towards a mutually beneficial BTA have continued. The latest round of negotiations was held in Washington, D.C. on 15–17 October. Subsequently, US Deputy Trade Representative Rick Switzer led a delegation to India on 10–11 December, during which he met senior Government officials. Both sides remain actively engaged in advancing the negotiations.

Minister of Finance spoke to Treasury Secretary Scott Bessent over telephone in May and December to discuss bilateral economic issues. Both sides agreed to continue the Economic and Financial Partnership Dialogue (EFP) at the Ministerial level.

In October, Secretary, Department of Economic Affairs led India's delegation for the Annual Fund Bank meetings in Washington D.C. During the meeting she held a bilateral meeting with the Under Secretary of State for Economic Affairs Jacob Helberg.

Energy Cooperation

The United States is India's sixth-largest energy trade partner. India's energy imports from the United States—including crude oil, LNG, and petroleum products—amounted to USD 10.37 billion during the first ten months of 2025, representing a growth of 38 per cent compared to the corresponding period in 2024.

Under the India–US COMPACT framework, both countries have committed to deepening the US–India Energy Security Partnership, including cooperation in oil, gas, and civil nuclear energy. Both sides share a strong commitment to advancing peaceful nuclear cooperation and associated research and development activities. Strengthened science and technology cooperation over the past several years has benefitted both countries, as well as partner countries worldwide. In line with this objective, on 15 January, following an interagency review, the US Bureau of Industry and Security (BIS) removed three Indian entities - Indian Rare Earths Ltd. (IREL), Indira Gandhi Atomic Research Centre (IGCAR), and Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC)—from the US 'Entity List.' BIS stated that this decision supported US foreign policy objectives by reducing barriers to advanced energy

cooperation, including joint research and development and enhanced science and technology collaboration, in pursuit of shared energy security goals.

During Prime Minister's visit to Washington, D.C. in February and interaction with President Trump, the two leaders reiterated their commitment to fully realizing the US–India 123 Civil Nuclear Agreement. They agreed to advance plans for the construction of US-designed nuclear reactors in India, supported by large-scale localization and potential technology transfer. Both sides also welcomed the Government of India's Budget announcement proposing amendments to the Atomic Energy Act and the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLNDA), aimed at facilitating greater collaboration between Indian and U.S. industry in nuclear reactor manufacturing and deployment. In the same month, the United States reaffirmed its strong support for India's full membership in the International Energy Agency (IEA).

EAM met US Secretary of Energy Chris Wright in Washington, D.C. on 1 July, during which both sides discussed a broad range of issues related to energy cooperation of mutual interest.

On 19 February, Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas (MoPNG) held a telephonic discussion with his counterpart Secretary, US Department of Energy Chris Wright. Both sides reviewed the ongoing energy cooperation between the two sides and announced the India-US Energy Security Partnership (ESP), envisaged as a comprehensive bilateral energy cooperation framework covering all forms of energy.

India and the US also launched the Strategic Mineral Recovery Initiative in February, aimed at recovering and processing critical minerals—including lithium, cobalt, and rare earth elements—from heavy industries such as aluminium, coal mining, and oil and gas. The inaugural meeting of the Expert Group under this initiative was held virtually on 15 July. The U.S. Department of Energy (DOE) is in the process of preparing a roadmap to guide further engagement under this initiative.

Regulatory cooperation also continued during the year. The Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB) of India and the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) held a bilateral technical meeting from 6–8 August to exchange perspectives on regulatory frameworks, safety standards, and licensing processes for advanced reactors and Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).

Secretary, Ministry of Coal led a delegation to the U.S. in August to explore possibilities for collaboration in coal gasification. Both sides expressed strong interest in advancing cooperation in this area and are working towards the conclusion of an MoU on the subject. Representatives from Coal India Limited, Bharat Coal Gasification and Chemicals Limited, and NLC India Limited were also part of the delegation.

The US welcomed the passage of the Sustainable Harnessing and Advancement of Nuclear Energy for Transforming India (SHANTI) Bill 2025, by the Indian Parliament on 18 December. The bill consolidates laws governing the civil nuclear sector and enables participation by private players. In a statement, the US Embassy in New Delhi noted that it stands ready to pursue joint innovation and research and development in the energy sector.

Meanwhile, several private-sector civil nuclear collaborations, including proposals related to SMRs, remained under active consideration and made progress. In 2025, the US Department of Energy granted specific authorizations under ten CFR Part 810 regulations for the following civil nuclear partnerships between Indian and U.S. entities -

- Holtec International's partnerships with Larsen & Toubro, Tata Consulting Engineers, and Holtec Asia for the deployment of its flagship SMR-300 reactor in India.
- Clean Core Thorium Energy (CCTE)'s partnership with the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB), and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (NPCIL) for the deployment of thorium-based ANEEL nuclear fuel technology in India.
- Flowserve Corporation's partnership with Core Energy Systems Limited for the manufacture of primary coolant pumps in India.

Defence Cooperation

The India–US defence partnership remains one of the most consequential pillars of the bilateral relationship. Anchored in a robust framework of foundational defence agreements, the partnership has expanded to encompass ministerial-level dialogues, extensive military-to-military engagement, acquisition of advanced defence platforms, information sharing, joint exercises, co-production and technology cooperation, as well as collaboration in emerging domains such as space and AI. This growing cooperation has enhanced interoperability across land, maritime, air, space, and cyber domains, and has emerged as an important contributor to stability in the Indo-Pacific region.

During the Prime Minister's meeting with President Trump in February, both leaders reaffirmed their commitment to the dynamic defence partnership spanning multiple domains. They announced plans to sign a new ten-year Framework for the US–India Major Defence Partnership in the 21st Century, and discussed expansion of defence sales and co-production to strengthen interoperability and defence industrial cooperation. Both sides agreed to accelerate defence technology cooperation across space, air defence, missile, maritime, and undersea technologies. The leaders also announced the Autonomous Systems Industry Alliance (ASIA) initiative to scale industry partnerships and production in the Indo-Pacific. Both sides further announced their intent to review respective arms-transfer regulations, including the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR).

Raksha Mantri and US Secretary of War Pete Hegseth signed the new and ambitious ten-year Framework for the US–India Major Defence Partnership in the 21st Century (2025–35) on the sidelines of the ADMM+ Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

EAM held a bilateral meeting with Secretary of War Pete Hegseth on 1 July in Washington, D.C. and discussed the strategic importance of India–US defence ties. They welcomed the expanding bilateral defence trade and deepening partnership in areas such as Underwater Domain Awareness (UDA) and autonomous systems.

Foreign Secretary visited Washington D.C. in May, and held meetings with Deputy Secretary of Defence Steve Feinberg and Under Secretary for Policy Elbridge Colby. The discussions focused on co-production and co-development initiatives, sustained joint military exercises, logistics and information-sharing frameworks, and enhancing interoperability between the armed forces.

Chief of the Naval Staff undertook an official visit to the United States on 12–17 November. During the visit, he met Commander of the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command (US INDOPACOM) Admiral Samuel Paparo; Commander, U.S. Pacific Fleet Admiral Stephen Koehler, and Commander, US Marine Forces Pacific Lieutenant General James Glynn, to advance maritime cooperation and discuss maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region.

Additionally, the year witnessed multiple incoming high-level interactions. US INDOPACOM Commander Admiral Samuel Paparo visited India in March to participate in the Raisina Dialogue 2025 and held interactions with his counterparts and senior Indian officials.

Director, Defence Innovation Unit (DIU) Douglas Beck, and Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defence for South and Southeast Asia Andrew Byers visited India in April and met senior officials in the MEA and MoD, as well as DRDO.

An introductory bilateral meeting took place in New Delhi on 8 July between the defence officials of the two sides regarding the Reciprocal Defence Procurement Agreement. The U.S. delegation was led by Principal Director of Defence Pricing and Contracting (DPC) John Tengalia. The DPC is within the Office of the Secretary of Defence (OSD).

The Indian Army received the full batch of six AH–64E Apache attack helicopters from the US in two tranches – tranche one in July, and the remaining three helicopters in December.



US INDOPACOM Commander Admiral Samuel Paparo held a bilateral meeting with Chief of Defence Staff of India on the sidelines of Raisina Dialogue held in New Delhi, March 2025.

Institutional dialogue mechanisms were also advanced. The bilateral 2+2 Intersessional Meeting, led by senior officials from the MEA and MoD and the U.S. Departments of State and Defence, was held virtually on 25 August. Separately, a delegation of officials from the Office of the Under Secretary of War (OUSW), Space Policy, visited India on 23–27 September and held discussions regarding cooperation in the defence–space domain.

In September, a delegation comprising officials from the US Department of War and Boeing Company visited India to hold negotiations regarding potential procurement of six additional P–8I aircraft by India.

The Executive Steering Group (ESG) Meeting for the Army was held in New Delhi in May, while the Navy ESG Meeting was held in New Delhi in December. The 24th India–US Joint Technology Group (JTG) meeting, co-chaired by the Office of the US Under Secretary of Defence for Research and Engineering and DRDO, was held in New Delhi on 30–31 October.

The 22nd India–US Military Cooperation Group (MCG) meeting was held in Hawaii on 3–4 November. The meeting was co-chaired by India's Chief of Integrated Defence Staff and Lieutenant General Joshua Rudd of the US INDOPACOM.

During 2025, India and the US conducted several joint defence exercises, both in bilateral and multilateral formats. The Indian Navy participated in the US-led multilateral anti-submarine warfare Exercise Sea Dragon held in March in Guam. The fourth edition of the tri-services Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) amphibious Exercise Tiger Triumph was held in April at Visakhapatnam. A two-day unmanned systems Subject Matter Expert Exchange (SMEE) Technology Event was held during the exercise for the first time, to advance the ASIA initiative. The first-ever independent Special Forces Exercise Tiger Claw between the Indian Air Force and the United States Air Force (USAF) was conducted in May–June across various locations in North India. In September, Exercise Yudh Abhyas was held in Alaska, USA, with a significant increase in the scope and complexity of the joint exercise. Exercise Malabar was conducted at and off Guam in November, and Exercise Cope India was held in November with Japan and Australia participating as observers.

Defence trade and industrial collaboration recorded significant progress. In July, the Indian Army received the first batch of three AH–64E Apache attack helicopters from the United States, with the final batch delivered on 16 December. On 7 November, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited signed a USD 1 billion contract with GE Aerospace for 113 GE F404 engines, in addition to 99 engines contracted earlier. On 19 November, the U.S. State Department approved two defence sales to India valued at USD 92.8 million, covering FGM-148 Javelin missiles and M982A1 Excalibur guided artillery projectiles. On 28 November, agreements worth USD 946 million were signed with the United States for maintenance and support of the Indian Navy's MH-60R Seahawk helicopter fleet. On 4 December, the United States approved the release of MAC sonobuoys, towed array systems, seabed sensors, and other unmanned underwater vehicle systems to India, further strengthening India's undersea warfare capabilities. On 8 December, Tata Advanced Systems and Lockheed Martin announced the commencement of a Defence Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul facility in Bengaluru to support C-130J Super Hercules aircraft. The construction of the C130J MRO is expected to be finished by the end of 2026 and the facility will begin receiving C130J platforms in early 2027.



Indian and US armed forces participated in the fourth edition of the tri-services Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) amphibious Exercise Tiger Triumph held in Visakhapatnam, April 2025.

Strategic Technology Cooperation

Science and technology cooperation has been a cornerstone of the strategic partnership between the world's two largest democracies. On 5–6 January, former US National Security Advisor Jake Sullivan, visited India with a senior interagency delegation to review progress under the India–U.S. Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET), which has since been recast as the TRUST (Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology) initiative. The review covered cooperation across artificial intelligence, quantum computing, semiconductors, telecommunications, defence, and space.

During the Prime Minister's visit to the United States in February, both sides formally announced the launch of the U.S.–India TRUST initiative. TRUST aims to catalyse collaboration among governments, industry, academia, and research institutions to advance cooperation in defence, artificial intelligence, semiconductors, quantum technologies, biotechnology, energy, and space, while promoting the use of trusted and verified technology vendors and ensuring the protection of sensitive technologies. During the visit, the leaders also launched INDUS Innovation, a new innovation bridge modelled on the INDUS-X platform to facilitate partnerships among defence companies, investors, and universities, and announced the Strategic Mineral Recovery Initiative to recover and process critical minerals—including lithium, cobalt, and rare earths—from industrial sectors such as aluminium, coal mining, and oil and gas.

An MoU between the US National Science Foundation (NSF) and the Indian Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) was signed and announced during the Prime Minister's visit to the United States in February. This partnership builds on the ongoing collaboration between the NSF and several Indian science agencies to enable joint research in the areas of semiconductors, connected vehicles, machine learning, next-generation telecommunications, intelligent transportation systems, and future bio-manufacturing.

Further momentum to India-US strategic technology cooperation was provided by the visit of the Foreign Secretary and Deputy National Security Advisor to Washington D.C. on 28–29 May focused on advancing the TRUST initiative. Discussions also covered the Indian Ocean Strategic Venture (IOSV), as well as cooperation through I2U2 and the India–Middle East–Europe Economic Corridor (IMEEC). In addition, a Track 1.5 Dialogue under the Advanced Materials R&D Forum was held virtually in August to support collaboration in advanced materials and resilient supply chains.

Engagements on digital and cyber issues continued through high-level exchanges. A delegation led by

Senior Advisor at the Cyber and Digital Policy Bureau at the US Department of State Alka Patel visited India on 8 September for discussions on artificial intelligence, advanced materials, rare earths, and pharmaceuticals. This was followed by Senior Bureau Official for the Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy Russell C. Headlee's visit to India on 10 December, which focused on preparations for the upcoming AI Impact Summit and broader issues related to cyberspace and digital policy.

During 2025, US technology companies significantly deepened their engagement with India's artificial intelligence (AI) ecosystem through large-scale investments in digital infrastructure and sustained commitments to talent development. Major US firms announced multi-billion-dollar investments in AI, cloud computing, and data centre infrastructure. Microsoft announced an investment of USD 17.5 billion to expand AI and cloud infrastructure, data centres, and associated digital skilling initiatives in India; Amazon committed over USD 35 billion by 2030 to strengthen AI capabilities, digital infrastructure, exports, and small business enablement; and Google unveiled a USD 15 billion plan to establish a major AI hub and gigawatt-scale data centre campus in Visakhapatnam. Taken together, these commitments—amounting to over USD 67 billion—underscore strong U.S. investor confidence in India as a key destination for AI-driven growth and digital transformation.

Leading US technology firms continued to expand AI-related operations encompassing research and development, cloud and compute infrastructure, enterprise AI solutions, and platform support functions. Notably, frontier AI companies such as OpenAI initiated steps towards establishing a formal office presence in India, while Anthropic advanced plans to set up operations in Bengaluru, signaling deeper engagement by the US' AI model developers with the Indian ecosystem.

In parallel, US companies expanded investments in AI training and workforce development, recognising the importance of skills for sustainable AI adoption. Microsoft scaled up nationwide AI skilling programmes, while Amazon Web Services continued large-scale cloud and AI training through initiatives such as AWS Skill Builder, AWS Educate, and AWS re/Start. Databricks announced an investment of over USD 250 million to support data and AI training through the India Data + AI Academy, and Kyndryl expanded AI-focused skilling programmes and innovation labs in India. Collectively, these initiatives reinforced India's emergence as a global hub for AI infrastructure, innovation, and talent.

In semiconductors, US companies continued to play an important role in strengthening India's ecosystem, supported by incentives under the India Semiconductor Mission and global supply-chain diversification efforts. Engagements during the year spanned assembly and testing, equipment manufacturing, design, advanced packaging, and skills development. Micron Technology advanced implementation of its USD 2.75 billion Assembly, Test, Marking and Packaging (ATMP) facility in Gujarat, achieving key regulatory and operational milestones. U.S. semiconductor equipment firms, including Lam Research, expanded supply-chain localisation and sourcing of critical components in India, while leading design and technology companies such as AMD, Qualcomm, and Intel further strengthened India-based R&D and ecosystem partnerships. In this context, the Tata Group and Intel announced a strategic alliance to explore collaboration in hardware enablement and semiconductor and systems manufacturing, supporting India's domestic semiconductor ecosystem and the development of a geo-resilient electronics and semiconductor supply chain. Collectively, these developments underscored deepening India–U.S. cooperation in critical and emerging technologies.

Space Cooperation

India and the United States share a long-standing partnership in the civil space domain, encompassing cooperation in Earth observation, satellite navigation, space science, exploration, and commercial space activities. During 2025, this cooperation witnessed

significant milestones across scientific, human spaceflight, and commercial dimensions, reinforcing space as a key pillar of the India–US Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership.

A major highlight of the year was the successful launch of the NASA–ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) mission on 30 July from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre, India. NISAR is a first-of-its-kind joint microwave imaging satellite developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to provide high-resolution, all-weather data for applications including disaster management, climate change studies, agriculture, and ecosystem monitoring. Under the mission, ISRO contributed the S-band radar, spacecraft bus systems, the GSLV launch vehicle, and is responsible for mission operations, while NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory provided the L-band radar, GPS receiver, solid-state recorder, and high data-rate downlink system. The satellite's initial operational phase has been highly satisfactory, and commissioning for the science phase is currently underway.

Bilateral cooperation also deepened significantly in the area of human spaceflight. An ISRO-nominated Indian Gaganyaatri, Group Captain Shubhanshu Shukla, participated in the Axiom-4 (Ax-4) commercial mission to the International Space Station, a joint endeavour involving ISRO, NASA, and U.S. commercial partners. The mission was launched on 25 June and concluded on 15 July, following an 18-day stay aboard the ISS, during which scientific experiments relevant to India's human spaceflight programme were conducted. In connection with the mission, the Secretary, Department of Space, visited the NASA Kennedy Space Center, Florida, and the NASA Johnson Space Center, Houston, underscoring close institutional coordination between ISRO and NASA.

In the area of space safety and mission assurance, cooperation continued under the Hyper Velocity Impact Test (HVIT) agreement between ISRO and NASA. As part of this framework, ISRO officials completed the first phase of Micro Meteoroidal and Orbital Debris (MMOD) impact testing of Gaganyaan crew module shields at NASA's White Sands Test Facility in October, contributing to enhanced safety and reliability of India's human spaceflight systems.

Commercial space cooperation also expanded during the year, reflecting growing linkages between Indian industry as well as US launch and satellite ecosystems. Satellites developed by Indian private companies, including a hyperspectral constellation from Pixxel, as well as satellites from Dhruva Space and HEX20, were launched aboard Falcon-9 launch vehicles in the United States during the year. In a significant reciprocal development, ISRO successfully launched a next-generation U.S. communication satellite, BlueBird Block-2, for AST SpaceMobile, using its heaviest launch vehicle LVM3-M6 from Sriharikota on 24 December, highlighting India's growing role as a reliable launch service provider for global commercial customers.

High-level exchanges further reinforced bilateral engagement in the space sector. A delegation led by Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs U.S. Department of State Allison Hooker visited ISRO Headquarters in Bengaluru on 10 December, where discussions covered ongoing and future areas of cooperation in civil and commercial space. During the visit, the U.S. side also highlighted progress on NASA's Artemis-II lunar human spaceflight mission, targeted for launch in early 2026.

Overall, during 2025, India–US space cooperation registered tangible progress across joint satellite missions, human spaceflight, space safety, and commercial launches, supported by strong institutional linkages and high-level political engagement. These developments underscored the growing depth, maturity, and strategic significance of India–U.S. collaboration in the peaceful exploration and use of outer space.

Counter-Narcotics Cooperation

Recognising the transnational nature of the threat of narcotics trafficking, India–U.S. cooperation in this domain has steadily deepened over the past three decades and is anchored in the 1990 Bilateral Agreement on Mutual Cooperation, the 1994 Memorandum of Understanding, and, more recently, the 2024 MoU on the Drug Policy Framework. The creation of the India–U.S. Counter-Narcotics Working Group (CNWG) during President Trump's visit to India in 2020 has further institutionalised this partnership and provided a structured mechanism for sustained engagement.

At the fifth CNWG meeting held in October 2024, a strengthened two-tier structure was adopted, comprising an Executive Working Group and three thematic pillars focused on disrupting trafficking networks, advancing public health cooperation, and securing pharmaceutical supply chains.

Operational and capacity-building cooperation between the two countries has yielded tangible results. Over the period 2021–2025, Indian and U.S. enforcement agencies conducted 38 controlled delivery operations and exchanged over 180 actionable intelligence inputs, leading to significant seizures of narcotics, precursor chemicals, and psychotropic substances, and the disruption of courier networks, parcel-based trafficking, and online vendors. In July, Indian agencies led by the Narcotics Control Bureau dismantled a major international drug cartel under Operation MED MAX through multi-agency cooperation, triggering coordinated actions in the United States and Australia against a network operating across four continents and more than ten countries.

Capacity-building cooperation, including training and workshops on clandestine laboratories, emerging synthetic drugs, and forensic techniques—with support from the US Drug Enforcement Administration, Homeland Security Investigations, and the Department of Justice—has further deepened collaboration and enhanced enforcement capabilities. High-level engagement continued with the visit of the U.S. Office of National Drug Control Policy Senior Advisor Debbie Seguin to India on 10–14 August. Together, these efforts underscore the depth of trust, operational coordination, and shared commitment underpinning India–US cooperation in addressing evolving narcotics threats while safeguarding legitimate pharmaceutical and industrial supply chains.

Counter Terrorism and Security Cooperation

Counterterrorism cooperation remains a central pillar of the India–US Strategic Partnership, encompassing information exchange, capacity building, operational collaboration, mutual legal assistance (including extradition), and regular consultations under the India–US Joint Working Group on Counterterrorism (JWG-CT). Both sides also cooperate closely on terrorist designations through the bilateral Designations Dialogue, as well as in multilateral and international fora including the United Nations and the Financial Action Task Force (FATF).

During the Prime Minister's visit to Washington, D.C. in February, the two leaders reaffirmed their commitment to jointly counter terrorist threats posed by groups including Al-Qaeda, ISIS, Jaish-e-Mohammad, and Lashkar-e-Tayyiba, with the objective of preventing attacks of the kind witnessed during the 26/11 Mumbai terrorist attacks. The India–U.S. Joint Statement of 13 February called upon Pakistan to ensure that its territory is not used for launching cross-border terrorist attacks. On the same day, President Donald Trump announced that his Administration had approved the extradition of Tahawwur Rana, one of the conspirators in the 2008 Mumbai attacks. Tahawwur Rana was subsequently extradited to India on 9 April, marking a significant milestone in bilateral counterterrorism cooperation.

The United States also took the lead in mobilising international support following the terrorist attack in Pahalgam on 22 April, including through a UN Security Council Press Statement condemning the attack. The Quad Foreign Ministers' Joint Statement of 1 July,

issued in Washington, D.C., similarly condemned the attack in the strongest terms and called for the perpetrators, organisers, and financiers to be brought to justice without delay. Further underscoring this commitment, on 18 July, the US Department of State designated The Resistance Front (TRF)—a Lashkar-e-Tayyiba front and proxy—as a Foreign Terrorist Organization (FTO) and a Specially Designated Global Terrorist (SDGT). TRF had claimed responsibility for the Pahalgam attack, which killed 26 civilians. In announcing the designation, US Secretary of State Marco Rubio stated that the action reflected the Administration's commitment to countering terrorism and enforcing justice for the victims.

Institutional engagement continued with the 21st meeting of the India–US Joint Working Group on Counterterrorism and the seventh Designations Dialogue, held on 3 December in New Delhi. The Indian delegation was led by Joint Secretary (Counter Terrorism), Ministry of External Affairs, while the US side was led by Senior Bureau Official, Bureau of Counterterrorism, U.S. Department of State Monica Jacobsen. The discussions reviewed threat assessments, operational cooperation, and progress on designations and legal cooperation.

Both sides also intensified law enforcement cooperation to take decisive action against illegal immigration networks, organised crime syndicates (including narco-terrorist groups), and human and arms trafficking networks, which pose threats to public safety, diplomatic security, and national sovereignty. This shared resolve was reiterated in discussions on mobility and security cooperation, emphasising firm action against criminal facilitators alongside the need to enable safe, secure, and orderly movement of people. Between 1 January and 31 December, a total of 3,567 Indian nationals were repatriated to India under US deportation procedures. The Ministry of External Affairs remained in close coordination with US authorities to ensure that deportations were conducted in a humane manner, with due regard for the dignity and well-being of the individuals concerned.

In addition, on 17 January, India and the United States signed an MoU in Washington, D.C. to enhance cooperation in cybercrime investigations. The MoU provides a framework for closer collaboration and specialised training in cyber threat intelligence and digital forensics, strengthening the capacity of law enforcement agencies in both countries to investigate and prosecute cyber-enabled criminal activity.

Education, Culture and People-to-People Ties

Indian diaspora in the US amounts to around 5.4 million. Indian-origin professionals, entrepreneurs, and students have emerged as central contributors to America's innovation economy and global competitiveness. They are driving research, value creation, and technological breakthroughs across Silicon Valley, cutting-edge defence laboratories, and leading university research centers. Today, Indian-origin CEOs head some of the United States' most influential and high-value companies. Their leadership directly strengthens economic growth, global competitiveness, shareholder value, and high-quality job creation in the American economy. The achievements of the Indian-American represent not only individual success stories, but also a living bridge of trust, talent, and shared aspirations between our two nations.

Eight new Indian Consular Application Centers (ICAC) across the United States of America were inaugurated on 1 August. The new ICACs have been opened in Raleigh, Orlando, San Jose, Dallas, Detroit, Columbus, Edison, and Boston. This expansion makes consular services more accessible to Indian and American citizens in the United States.

During Prime Minister's visit to the U.S. in February, both leaders recognized that the talent flow and movement of students, researchers and employees, has mutually benefitted both countries.

Indian professionals have made sustained contributions to innovation, economic growth, and technological advancement in the United States, while also acquiring

expertise and experience that strengthens India's own innovation and entrepreneurial ecosystem through return, collaboration, and cross-border engagement. The Ministry continues to engage with US authorities to underscore the shared benefits of people-to-people ties and skilled mobility, and to advocate for policies that preserve and sustain this productive partnership in the long-term interest of both countries.

Education partnership is an important pillar of India-US ties with strong linkages and history of higher education collaborations. Indian students annually contribute in excess of USD 10 billion to the U.S. economy. In December, there were about 3,53,737 Indian students in the U.S., 80% of whom are pursuing graduate (masters) programs. During Prime Minister's visit to US, both leaders resolved to strengthen collaborations between the higher education including through setting up of offshore campuses of premier educational institutions of the US in India. A Letter of Intent was issued to Illinois Institute of Technology to set-up Campus in Mumbai, and several other collaborations are being explored.

On the culture front, on 28 July, the US published a Designated List of Archaeological and Ethnological Material of India which amends the US Customs and Border Protection (CBP) regulations to reflect the imposition of import restrictions on certain archaeological and ethnological material from India. As per the rule, effective from 28 July 2025 to 26 July 2029, unless extended, the importation of these materials to the USA is restricted unless they are accompanied by documentation certifying that they left India legally and are not in violation of India's export laws. The import restrictions apply on certain categories of archaeological material from India, ranging in date from approximately 1.7 million years ago to 1770 C.E., as well as certain categories of ethnological material dating from approximately the second century B.C.E. to 1947 C.E, listed in the Designated List, published as part of the final rule. This follows the signing of the Cultural Property Agreement (CPA) between India and US to prevent and curb the illicit trafficking of antiquities from India to the US.

Two Indian sculptures, which were previously in the custody of the Smithsonian Museum in Washington D.C.- Shiva and Uma (12th century), and Sundarar-Parvati (16th century), are being repatriated to India. Further, a Shiva Nataraja sculpture (9th century), which was also in the custody of Smithsonian Museum, has been loaned by Smithsonian's National Museum of Asian Art for a period of three years (2025-28).

MoUs/Agreements signed in 2025-

- MoU on Cybercrime Investigation was signed on 18 January
- MoU between the Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF) of India and the U.S. National Science Foundation (NSF) in researching critical and emerging technologies signed on 11 February.
- Framework For the U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership (2025-35) signed on 31 October.

Quad Engagement

Quad engagements at the Foreign Ministers' level and working-level continued to progress during the year. Immediately after the new U.S. Administration took office on 20 January, the Quad Foreign Ministers met in person in Washington D.C. on 21 January, underlining the value and importance of the Quad and its practical initiatives aimed at addressing regional challenges in the Indo-Pacific. A Joint Statement was released on the occasion.

The Quad Foreign Ministers met for the second time in the year in Washington, D.C. on 1 July and reiterated their commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific region. With an aim to leverage the Quad's resources to address the region's key challenges, the Ministers announced a new, ambitious and strong Quad agenda focused on four key areas - maritime and transnational security, economic prosperity and security, critical and emerging technology, and humanitarian assistance and emergency response. They also launched the Quad Critical Minerals Initiative, which aims to

strengthen economic security and collective resilience by collaborating to secure and diversify critical minerals supply chains. A Joint Statement and Joint Factsheet were released following the meeting.



The Quad Foreign Ministers Meeting was held at the Department of State in Washington D.C., July 2025.

A Quad Business Roundtable on Critical Minerals was convened by the US Department of State in Washington D.C. on 1 July to discuss shared challenges and opportunities in securing reliable, transparent and diversified critical minerals supply chains. Senior representatives from companies and business organisations from the Quad countries, as well as officials from Quad embassies, participated in the discussions.

In March, India hosted a Quad Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness, with the participation of 15 Indo-Pacific countries, to strengthen global health emergency frameworks and enhance regional resilience.

Following the earthquake in Myanmar in March, Quad countries released a Joint Statement highlighting their coordinated response, including their contribution of over USD 30 million in humanitarian assistance to support affected communities.

With the objective of strengthening interoperability and knowledge-sharing to address unlawful maritime activities across the region, Quad partners undertook the first-ever Quad-at-Sea Ship Observer Mission from Palau to Guam, on 26 June –3 July, onboard US Coast Guard Cutter Stratton.

The inaugural cohort of 18 students from Indo-Pacific countries under the Quad STEM Scholarships Initiative, announced by India during the 2024 Quad Leaders' Summit, commenced their courses at renowned Indian technical institutes in September 2025.

A Table Top Exercise under the Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN) was held in Hawaii on 28 April–2 May. The exercise simulated the leveraging of Quad's shared logistics capabilities in the Indo-Pacific to support civilian response to natural disasters more rapidly and efficiently across the region.

The inaugural Quad Ports of the Future Partnership Conference was hosted by India in Mumbai on 29–30 October, alongside India Maritime Week. The Conference focused on leveraging Quad expertise to support the development of sustainable and resilient port infrastructure across the Indo-Pacific. Around 120 delegates from 24 countries, including the Quad partners, participated in the Conference.

In October, under the Quad Advancing Innovation to Empower NextGen Agriculture (AI-ENGAGE) Initiative, India awarded grants to six joint research proposals through the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), with the objective of leveraging research and innovation in areas such as artificial intelligence, robotics, communications, and sensing to enhance crop yields and resilience.

The Annual Meeting and Table Top Exercise (TTX) of the Quad Partnership on Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) was held on 2–5 December in Hawaii.

India hosted the third Quad Counter Terrorism Working Group meeting and Table Top Exercise (TTX) in New Delhi on 4–5 December.

The Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network Field Training Exercise (FTX) was held in Guam from 8–12 December, on the sidelines of Operation Christmas Drop at Andersen Air Force Base, Guam, with a focus

on enhancing interoperability and coordination among Quad partners' capabilities to better support regional partners in times of need.

The next Quad Leaders' Summit will be hosted by India.

Canada

India-Canada bilateral ties are underlined by shared democratic values, a steadfast commitment to the rule of law, vibrant people-to-people ties, robust economic linkages and a strong commitment to upholding the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity.

On 29 April, in a post on X, the Prime Minister conveyed congratulations to Prime Minister Mark Carney on his election. This was reciprocated by Prime Minister Mark Carney who called Prime Minister on 6 June and extended him an invitation to attend the G7 Summit in Kananaskis, held on 17 June. During the call, the two leaders acknowledged the deep people-to-people ties between India and Canada and reaffirmed their commitment to work together with renewed vigour, guided by mutual respect and shared interests.

High-Level Exchanges

Prime Minister visited Kananaskis, Canada on 16-17 June to participate in the G7 outreach session on 'Energy Security: diversification, technology and infrastructure to ensure access and affordability in a changing world'. On the sidelines of the G7 Summit, Prime Minister held a fruitful bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Mark Carney. Both sides underlined the need to pursue a constructive and balanced partnership grounded in respect for mutual concerns and sensitivities, strong people-to-people ties, and growing economic complementarities. They also agreed to take calibrated and constructive steps to restore stability in the relationship, beginning with the early return of High Commissioners to each other's capitals. Additionally, the two leaders underscored the importance of restarting senior ministerial as well as working level engagements across various domains to rebuild trust and bring momentum to the relationship.

On the sidelines of the G20 Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg, the Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with Prime Minister Carney on 23 November. The leaders agreed to begin negotiations on a high-ambition Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA), aimed at doubling bilateral trade to USD 50 billion by 2030. Prime Minister Carney accepted Prime Minister's invitation to visit India in early 2026.

In Johannesburg, the Prime Ministers of India, Canada, and Australia also launched the Australia–Canada–India Technology and Innovation (ACITI) Partnership on 22 November. The initiative will foster cooperation on critical and emerging technologies, with an emphasis on artificial intelligence, green energy innovation, and building resilient supply chains, including in critical minerals.

Ministerial Engagements and Bilateral Dialogues

EAM congratulated Anita Anand on her appointment as Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada on 13 May. Both foreign ministers also held a telephonic conversation on 25 May. EAM and Canadian Foreign Minister Anand also met on the sidelines of UNGA in New York on 29 September.

Foreign Minister Anand visited India on 13-14 October. During her visit to New Delhi, she called on the Prime Minister, held meetings with EAM and the Minister of Commerce and Industry on 13 October. A joint statement – 'Renewing Momentum Towards a Stronger Partnership' was issued by the two foreign offices following the meeting between the foreign ministers. The Ministers recognized that in the context of ongoing global economic uncertainty and rising geopolitical tensions, a strong and resilient

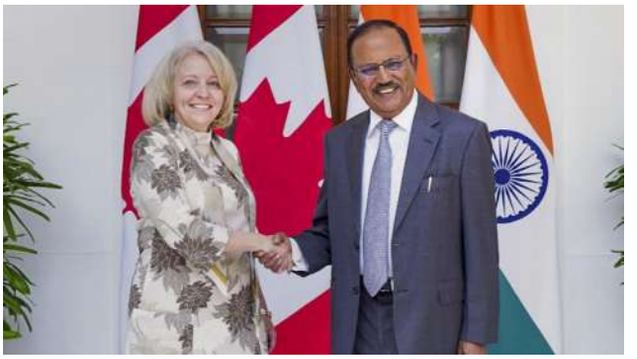
India-Canada bilateral relationship is essential. They reaffirmed that reviving the partnership will help create opportunities for enhanced economic cooperation, mitigate vulnerabilities arising from shifting global alliances, ensure more reliable supply chains, and reinforce strategic stability in an increasingly complex international environment. Both sides agreed to work on a New Roadmap for India-Canada bilateral relations. During the Mumbai leg of her visit, Foreign Minister Anand met the Chief Minister of Maharashtra. In Mumbai, Minister Anand also engaged with senior leaders of India's top corporations, highlighting Canada as a premier destination for investment and collaboration in areas such as clean energy, infrastructure, technology, and innovation. In addition, she met Canadian pension fund and institutional investors based in Mumbai, recognising their critical role in strengthening Canada–India economic linkages and mobilising capital for sustainable growth.

At the invitation of Foreign Minister Anand, EAM visited Canada to participate in Day-two of the Second 2025 G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in Niagara Region, Ontario on 11-12 November.



EAM and Foreign Minister of Canada Anita Anand on the sidelines of the 8th session of the UNGA held in New York, September 2025.

National Security Adviser met National Security and Intelligence Advisor of Canada Nathalie G. Drouin, on 18 September in New Delhi. The visit and the discussions provided the much-required momentum for rebuilding trust and strengthening, expanding and reinforcing existing mechanisms of engagement between respective law enforcement agencies. Both sides also discussed advancing cooperation in intelligence exchanges, countering terrorism and combating transnational organised crime.



National Security Advisor met National Security and Intelligence Advisor of Canada Nathalie G. Drouin in New Delhi, September 2025.

Minister of Commerce and Industry (CIM) held a telephonic conversation with the Minister of International Trade of Canada Maninder Sidhu on 11 October. The Ministers discussed ways to find mutually beneficial opportunities for Indian and Canadian businesses to capitalise on the complementarities offered by the two economies.

At the invitation of CIM, Minister Sidhu, undertook an official visit to India on 11–14 November. The Ministers held the seventh edition of the Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI) on 13 November in New Delhi. During the visit, Minister Sidhu also met the Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas and discussed bilateral trade and investment opportunities in the hydrocarbons sector. On 14 November, Minister Sidhu visited Visakhapatnam to participate in the 30th CII Partnership Summit.

Minister of Commerce and Industry (CIM) and Minister Sidhu also held a telephonic conversation on 3 December to initiate discussions in preparation for the launch of CEPA negotiations. CIM accepted Minister Sidhu's invitation to lead a high-level trade and investment delegation to Canada in the new year.

Minister of Civil Aviation represented India at the 42nd General Assembly of ICAO at Montreal, Canada on

24-25 September. During his visit, he also interacted with industry leaders at a round table jointly organised by the High Commission of India, Ottawa and the Canada India Business Council (CIBC). Business representatives expressed keen interest in partnering with India's fast-growing aviation sector including MRO & component manufacturing segments.

On 19 September, pre-Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) between India and Canada were held in New Delhi. The Indian delegation for the pre-FOC was led by Secretary (East) and the Canadian delegation was led by their Deputy Foreign Minister David Morrison. Both sides agreed to initiate necessary steps to reactivate bilateral dialogue mechanisms across diverse domains, including trade, defence, energy, civil nuclear, security and law enforcement, critical minerals, space, science and technology, and agriculture.

During the year, a series of interactions were organized by think-tanks in India and Canada as a part of confidence-building measures between the two countries:

- Asia Pacific Foundation of Canada (APFC) and the Ananta Centre organized a Track 2 dialogue in New Delhi, 14-17 February
- APFC and Council for Strategic and Defence Strategic Research (CSDR) organized a Track 2 dialogue in Ottawa, 3 October.
- APFC, Ananta Centre, and the High Commission of Canada organized a Track 1.5 dialogue on Economic Resilience and Critical Minerals Supply Chains in New Delhi, 25 November
- APFC and CSDR organized a Track 1.5 Dialogue on Defence-Industrial and Security Cooperation in New Delhi, 26 November

Trade and Economic Cooperation

Trade and investment linkages remain central pillars of the India–Canada bilateral partnership. India's exports to Canada during January–December stood at USD 4.485 billion, registering a growth of 8.28 percent. India's imports from Canada during the same period amounted to USD 3.339 billion, reflecting a decline of 30.97 percent. Total bilateral trade during the period was USD 7.824 billion, representing a year-on-year contraction of 12.87 percent.

During the meeting between the Foreign Ministers of the two countries in New Delhi on 13 October, both sides affirmed that trade is the cornerstone of bilateral economic growth and resilience, and acknowledged the expanding opportunities in goods, services, and investment. They agreed that early initiatives in trade cooperation would include commencing, at an early date, ministerial-level discussions on bilateral trade and investment, informed by current economic realities and respective strategic priorities. Both sides also agreed to resume the Canada–India CEO Forum, which will bring together leading business executives from both countries to identify concrete and actionable recommendations to facilitate enhanced bilateral trade and investment, with a focus on priority sectors such as clean technology, infrastructure, agri-food, and digital innovation. The Forum is expected to convene on the margins of a senior-level trade mission in early 2026.

During the visit of Canada's Minister of International Trade Maninder Sidhu to India, the two sides held the seventh Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment (MDTI) in New Delhi on 13 November. CIM and Minister Sidhu reaffirmed the strength and continuity of the India–Canada economic partnership and reiterated their commitment to deepening cooperation through sustained dialogue, mutual respect, and forward-looking initiatives. They welcomed the robust growth in bilateral trade in goods and services, as well as the steady expansion of two-way investment flows, and reaffirmed their shared commitment to elevating the economic partnership in line with evolving global trade and supply chain dynamics.

While in New Delhi, Minister Sidhu held high-level meetings with leading Indian companies, including Bhartia Group, Tata Group, and HCL Technologies, and participated in a roundtable with representatives of Canadian pension funds, Air Canada, and other Canadian companies to explore new avenues for

collaboration. He underscored that strengthening trade and investment ties in priority sectors such as critical minerals, innovation, agriculture, and digital industries would unlock significant opportunities for businesses and workers in both countries. Addressing the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Partnership Summit in Visakhapatnam, Minister Sidhu reaffirmed Canada's commitment to trade diversification, facilitating enduring international business partnerships, and strengthening engagement with the Indo-Pacific region.

In the first week of November, Invest India conducted investment roadshows in Montreal, Toronto, Calgary, and Saskatoon, highlighting India's growth story and showcasing emerging investment opportunities.

On 24 November, the Indo-Canadian Business Chamber (ICBC) held its Annual National Convention in New Delhi. Commerce & Industry Minister participated in the event as the Chief Guest.

Portfolio investments from Canada into India currently exceed USD 75 billion and are expected to grow further, reflecting confidence in India's long-term economic prospects. Canadian FDI in India between April 2000 and June 2025 amounted to USD 4.18 billion. Over 600 Canadian companies have established a presence in India, while nearly 1,000 Canadian companies are actively pursuing business opportunities in the Indian market.

Energy and Climate Cooperation

Recognising the pivotal role of energy transformation in meeting climate goals, enhancing energy security, and supporting sustainable economic development, India and Canada intend to deepen cooperation in clean, secure, and equitable energy collaboration.

Both sides have committed to revitalise the energy partnership through the early re-establishment of the Canada–India Ministerial Energy Dialogue (CIMED) and its accompanying Action Plan. Canada's Minister of Natural Resources Tim Hodgson, accepted the invitation of Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas to participate in India Energy Week, scheduled to be held in Goa from 27–30 January 2026. The two sides aim to promote two-way trade in LNG and LPG and encourage investments in oil and gas exploration and production, with a strong emphasis on clean technologies. Cooperation will also extend to sustainable low-carbon fuels and technologies, including green hydrogen, biofuels, carbon capture, utilisation and storage (CCUS), and electric mobility, alongside efforts to strengthen related supply chains, policy frameworks, and market access.

India and Canada will exchange best practices in electricity system management to enhance grid safety, stability, and the integration of renewable energy sources. Joint efforts will also focus on emissions reduction, environmental management, digitalisation of the power sector, and disaster resilience. Both countries will continue to advance global energy efficiency initiatives, including through multilateral platforms such as the G20.

Recognising Canada's strengths in the mining sector, both sides will also facilitate dialogue among governments, industry, and think tanks to explore how Canadian mining expertise can support India's critical minerals requirements for energy security. The two countries also welcomed ongoing discussions on civil nuclear cooperation as part of their broader clean energy transition agenda, including engagements between India's Department of Atomic Energy and Canadian uranium suppliers on existing and potential new mining projects. To strengthen collaboration in this area, India and Canada have agreed to convene the Critical Minerals Annual Dialogue.

A delegation of senior officials from Ministry Mines, NALCO, Coal India, GSI, NMDC and UCIL participated in the Premier Mineral Exploration & Mining Convention (PDAC) – the world's premier mineral exploration and mining convention held in Toronto on 2-5 March.

Technology Cooperation

Recognising the pivotal role of innovation and technology in advancing inclusive growth and global competitiveness, India and Canada agreed to strengthen their partnership in addressing climate challenges through science, technology, and digital

solutions. Both sides will relaunch the Joint Science and Technology Cooperation Committee (JSTCC) to provide strategic direction for collaborative research and innovation. They also aim to foster mutually beneficial partnerships in artificial intelligence, leveraging it to promote sustainable development and climate resilience.

Canada's Minister of Artificial Intelligence and Digital Innovation Evan Solomon accepted the invitation of the Minister of Electronics and Information Technology to attend the India AI Impact Summit held in New Delhi on 19–20 February 2026. The Summit is expected to serve as a platform to exchange ideas on AI-driven solutions for clean energy, climate adaptation, and environmental sustainability. Canada is also officiating as the Co-Chair of the Working Group on Science for the AI Impact Summit to take place in New Delhi. The Working Group on Science envisions a world where AI accelerates discovery through open, transparent, and equitable scientific collaboration bridging divides in capacity and participation. It aims to build collective understanding and shared norms to ensure that AI enhances, rather than narrows, the frontiers of global science.

Both sides will also explore cooperation in digital public infrastructure to harness technology for effective climate action, transparent governance, and sustainable growth.

Agriculture Cooperation

Recognising the importance of deepening collaboration in agriculture to promote food security, enhance trade and productivity, increase farmers' incomes, and ensure long-term sectoral sustainability, India and Canada agreed to work together to build stable and sustainable supply chains. Cooperation will focus on improving agri-value chains through the exchange of best practices and technological collaboration, while enhancing nutritional security and promoting the recycling of agricultural waste into energy and organic fertilisers. The partnership will also emphasise innovation in climate-resilient agriculture and sustainable food systems, supporting shared objectives of environmental stewardship, economic opportunity, and resilient rural livelihoods.

FICCI led a delegation to Saskatchewan's premier agricultural technology exhibition 'Ag in Motion' on 14-18 July. The 21-member delegation included officials from Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare, Maharashtra's Indo Pulses Development Association, and Punjab Chamber of Commerce.

During September–October, the Canadian province of Saskatchewan organised the Saskatchewan Trade and Investment Roadshow (STAIR), focused on agriculture and agri-technology, across four Indian cities—Hyderabad, Kolkata, Mumbai, and Lucknow.

Education Cooperation

Canada has emerged as a favoured destination for Indian students, with the current number estimated at approximately 392,810. Both sides agreed to pursue renewed collaboration in higher education and research, reflecting the expanding talent pools and innovation ecosystems in both countries. Emphasis will be placed on research partnerships in emerging technologies such as artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, and fintech, alongside efforts to expand the presence of Canadian academic institutions in India through overseas campuses. To advance these goals, both sides will revitalise the Joint Working Group on Higher Education, providing renewed impetus to India–Canada academic networks and institutional linkages, and further strengthening the people-to-people foundation of the bilateral relationship.

People-to-People Exchanges

People-to-people linkages form the cornerstone of mutual understanding and long-term collaboration between India and Canada. Canada hosts one of the largest Indian diasporas abroad, comprising nearly 1.8 million Indo-Canadians and approximately one million non-resident Indians. The diaspora, primarily concentrated in the Greater Toronto Area, Greater Vancouver Area, Montreal (Quebec), Calgary and Edmonton (Alberta), Ottawa (Ontario), and Winnipeg (Manitoba), has contributed significantly to Canadian society and the economy. Numerous business and diaspora organisations continue to support enhanced

bilateral relations between the two countries.

The 50th Toronto International Film Festival (TIFF) held on 4-14 September, marked the debut of WAVES Bazaar in North America through the Bharat Pavilion. WAVES Bazaar is India's first international e-marketplace for film, media, and AVGC-XR sector. A delegation of senior officials from Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB), National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), and FICCI participated in TIFF. Discussions centered on WAVES Bazaar's potential to bridge Indian and international creative economies and explored the possibility of establishing a dedicated Film Market at TIFF with Indian content at its core. This initiative is likely to catalyze co-productions, content exchange, and industry collaborations between India and North America.

Latin America and the Caribbean

India and the 13 countries of South America region share a longstanding relationship. The relationship is rooted in mutual respect, shared democratic values and a commitment towards South-South Cooperation. Though separated geographically, the warm and close ties have moved on a positive trajectory, promising diverse engagements between the countries.

The region has witnessed unprecedented engagements with India in the recent years. Marked by several political interactions, these high-level exchanges have provided a renewed momentum to India's relationships with the South American countries.

Recent outgoing high-level visits include the State visit of the Prime Minister to Brazil on 7-8 July and an official visit to Argentina 4-5 July. The Prime Minister attended the 17th BRICS Leaders' Summit in Rio de Janeiro from 5-7 July.

Incoming high-level visits include the State visit of President of Chile Gabriel Boric on 1-5 April and President of Paraguay Santiago Peña Palacios on 2-4 June as well as the official visit of Vice-President and Minister of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin on 15-17 October.

In March, the EAM met the Foreign Ministers of Peru, Bolivia and Antigua & Barbuda on the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue 2025. He co-chaired the India-CELAC Expanded Troika Meeting, with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia Rosa Yolanda Villavicencio, on 26 September. The India-CELAC meeting was held on the sidelines of the 80th session of UNGA in New York. The meeting was also attended by Foreign Ministers and representatives from more than 20 CELAC member countries.



EAM co-chaired the India-CELAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting along with Foreign Minister of Colombia Rosa Yolanda Villavicencio in New York, September 2025.

MoS (PM) visited Uruguay on 28 February-2 March, Ecuador on 4-5 November and Bolivia on 7-8 November.

The 10th CII India–LAC Conclave held in New Delhi on 19-20 March, brought together over 600 delegates from India and 23 Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) countries. The conclave reaffirmed shared priorities of food security, energy transition, and sustainability, positioning India-LAC engagement as a cornerstone of South-South cooperation.

In the spirit of South-South cooperation, India has been working with South American countries to build broad-based and inclusive partnerships. The focus areas of cooperation include trade and investment, health and pharmaceuticals, digital technology and AI, defence, energy and critical minerals, space, nuclear and green energy, science and technology, training and capacity building, infrastructure development and people to people connectivity.

South America

Antigua & Barbuda

The bilateral engagements between India and Antigua & Barbuda witnessed an up-tick in the recent times. Foreign Minister of Antigua & Barbuda E.P Chet Greene visited India on 17-20 March to attend the Raisina Dialogue. Foreign Minister Greene also attended 10th CII India-LAC Conclave. His visit marked the first-ever Foreign Ministerial visit from Antigua & Barbuda to India. Separately, Minister Greene held a pull-aside meeting with EAM on the margin of India-CELAC meeting on 26 September in New York.

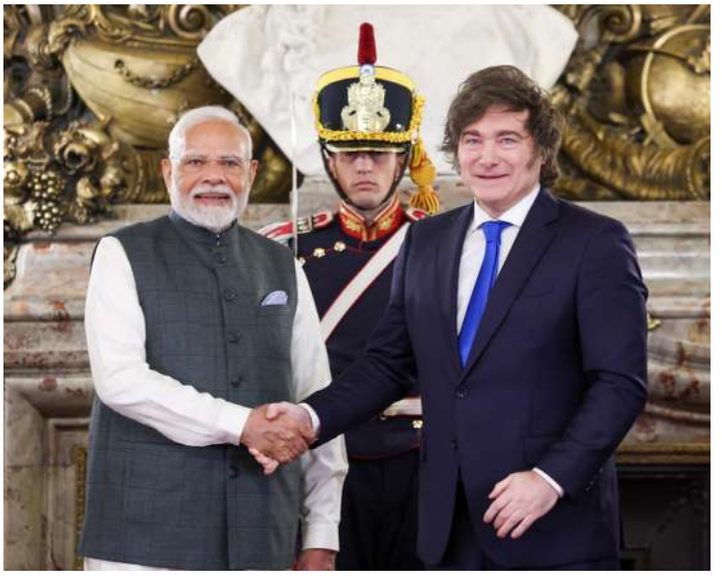
Minister of Agriculture, Lands, Fisheries and the Blue Economy Anthony Smith Jr, visited India on 27-30 October to attend the second Edition of 'Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue 2025', held in collaboration with India's Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. The conference was held as part of the India Maritime Week 2025. Minister of Information, Communication Technologies, Utilities and Energy Melford Walter Fitzgerald Nicholas, visited India on 27-30 October to attend the eighth session of the Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) in New Delhi.

Argentina

The Prime Minister paid a historic visit to Argentina on 4-5 July and met President of the Argentine Republic Javier Milei. The two leaders called for enhancing cooperation in the fields of critical minerals, oil and gas, defence, nuclear energy, agriculture, science & technology, use of drones in agriculture, fisheries & monitoring of power transmission lines, ICT, Digital Public Infrastructure, UPI, space, railways, pharma, sports and people-to-people ties. The leaders took stock of the ongoing economic collaboration. The Prime Minister noted that while bilateral trade was on a stable trajectory, the two sides needed to diversify the trade basket to harness the full potential of commercial engagement. In this context, they also discussed the expansion of the India-MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement.

Governor of Catamarca Raul Jalil visited India on 18-26 February. An MoU between Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), a PSU under the Ministry of Mines, and the Provincial Government of Catamarca, Argentina, was signed on 19 February to deepen collaboration in the exploration and resource development of critical minerals.

The second meeting of Joint Working Group (JWG) on Agriculture Cooperation was held in Buenos Aires on 15 July. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and National Institute of Agriculture Technology (INTA), Argentina signed Work Plan for the Years 2025-2027 on 10 December.



Prime Minister met President of the Argentine Republic Javier Milei in Buenos Aires, marking the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Argentina after a gap of 57 years, July 2025.

Bolivia

India and Bolivia have been working to deepen and diversify bilateral relations, including in trade. Towards this, the countries signed an agreement to establish mechanism of Joint Commission Dialogue on 6 February. The dialogue will regularly discuss areas to strengthen in the bilateral relations.

Prime Minister and the then President of Bolivia Luis Alberto Arce Catacora held a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of BRICS Summit on 7 July.



Prime Minister met the then President of Bolivia Luis Alberto Arce Catacora on the sidelines of BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, July 2025.

The then Foreign Minister of Bolivia Celinda Sosa Lunda visited India during 18-21 March to attend the 10th CII-India LAC Conclave in New Delhi. She met EAM on 20 March and signed an Agreement on Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs). She also met the Minister of Culture and Tourism, and signed the 'Agreement on Cultural Exchange Programme 2025-27.'



EAM and the then Foreign Minister of Bolivia Celinda Sosa Lunda signed an Agreement on Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs), March 2025.

MoS (PM) visited Bolivia on 6-8 November. During his visit, he participated in the oath taking ceremony of the President-elect Rodrigo Paz on 8 November.

India's first resident Ambassador to Bolivia assumed charge on 19 March and presented credentials to the then President of Bolivia Luis Alberto Arce Catacora

on 26 May. A resident Mission is envisaged to boost the relationship. An Indian delegation led by Joint Secretary (South America) visited Bolivia on 4-7 August to participate in the Bicentenary celebrations marking Bolivia's independence.

India provided over 15 tonnes of HADR relief material in February and April. India also gifted 300,000 doses of Measles and Rubella (MR) Vaccines including the essential supplies needed for their administration in the wake of outbreak of Measles in Bolivia for which the country declared national emergency.

Following the MoU on QIP with Bolivia, signed in March, total five QIPs worth USD 206,664.6 were approved by the GoI for implementation in Bolivia during the FY 2025-26.

Embassy of India was awarded 'Majestic Illimani of the Bicentenary Award (4th edition)' for recognition of its outstanding work and contribution to the country's development, and promotion of its culture and human rights on 29 October.

Brazil

India and Brazil share close and multifaceted Strategic Partnership, both at bilateral level and also in plurilateral fora. Since January, several high-level visits and interactions have taken place between the two countries further advancing the relationship.

The Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Brasilia on 7-8 July. This marked the first bilateral visit of Prime Minister to Brazil, which took place after 57 years. Six Agreements / MoUs on cooperation in the field of security and counter terrorism, digital cooperation, agricultural research, renewable energy and intellectual property rights were signed during the visit. Additionally, the Prime Minister was conferred with Brazil's highest national honour – 'The Grand Collar of the National Order of the Southern Cross' by President of Brazil Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva. On the sidelines of his visit to Brazil, the Prime Minister also attended the 17th BRICS Summit 2025 held in the city of Rio de Janeiro from 6-7 July.



Prime Minister was accorded a ceremonial welcome by President of Brazil Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva during his State Visit to Brazil, July 2025.

As part of India's diplomatic outreach post Operation Sindoor, a seven-member All-Party Parliamentary Delegation led by a senior member of the Lok Sabha visited Brasilia on 1-2 June. During their visit, the delegation held official meetings with Vice President of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin, Presidents of Parliamentary Friendship Groups in both houses, Special Diplomatic Advisor to President Lula Celso Amorim, and other senior dignitaries.

Brazil took over the presidency of BRICS in 2025, and the year witnessed several outgoing ministerial visits to Brasilia, including the visit of Minister of Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare visited on 16-18 April, Minister of State for Labour & Employment visited on 25 April, Minister of Road, Transport & Highways on 12-14 May, Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs on 15-19 May, Minister of Culture & Tourism on 22-26 May, MoS (Communications) on 29 May-2 June, Minister of Finance's visit to Rio de Janeiro on 4-5 July and the Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change's visit to attend Pre-COP30 Meeting on 13-14 October.

A Parliamentary delegation led by Speaker, which included Deputy Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, visited Brasilia on 3-6 June to attend the meeting BRICS Parliamentary Forum.

Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change led the Indian delegation during the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change UNFCCC (COP30) in Belem, capital of State of Para in Brazil on 10-21 November.

Chief of Naval Staff visited Brazil on 8-13 December to strengthen bilateral naval cooperation between the two large Navies. An MoU on maintenance of Scorpene-class submarines was signed between Chiefs of both Navies and Mazagaon Dock Limited during the visit.

Brazil hosted the COP30 Summit in Belem on 10-21 November.

India received incoming high-level visits at the level of Vice-President and Governors of States of Brazil. Vice-President and Minister of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin, paid an official visit to India on 15-17 October. Vice-President Alckmin was accompanied by the Minister of Defence, Minister of Health, senior government officials and a sizeable business delegation encompassing multiple sectors.

The first Trade Ministerial Review Meeting was held between Vice-President Alckmin and Minister of Commerce and Industry, as agreed by Prime Minister and President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva in July this year in the Joint Statement. During Vice-President Alckmin's visit, a Joint Declaration on the launch of negotiations for substantial and significant expansion of the India-MERCOSUR PTA was issued. Vice President Alckmin was accompanied by Defence and Health Ministers, and met his Indian counterpart, Hon'ble Vice-President, Raksha Mantri, EAM and the Minister for Petroleum and Natural Gas. Additionally, Vice President Alckmin visited All India Institute of Ayurveda and participated in a India-Brazil Business Conclave.

Special Advisor to President of Brazil Ambassador Celso Luis Nunes Amorim, visited India on 2-4 October. Ambassador Amorim co-chaired the sixth India-Brazil Strategic Dialogue with National Security Advisor on 3 October.

Governor of State of Goiás Ronaldo Caiado, led an 80-member delegation comprising state officials, business leaders, and academic institutions to India on 10-21 February. Governor of State of Mato Grosso do Sul Eduardo Corrêa Riedel, visited India in the first week of August. He met the then Governor of Maharashtra on 6 August during the visit.

India and Brazil continue to maintain a strong and dynamic trade relationship. In 2024-25, bilateral trade reached USD 12.20 billion, with Indian exports to Brazil amounting to USD 6.77 billion and imports from Brazil totalling USD 5.43 billion. This underscores the sustained momentum in trade relations, building on the total trade of USD 12.23 billion in 2023-24, which included USD 6.0 billion of exports to Brazil and USD 6.2 billion imports from Brazil. Prime Minister and President Lula also had telephonic conversation in

August this year and discussed ways to strengthen trade relations.

Chile

India's engagement with Chile intensified in 2025 with high level political engagement and strong focus on expansion of trade and economic ties. The two countries have continued to coordinate their positions at multilateral fora in support of multilateralism, sustainable development and promotion of human rights. Chile has reiterated its support for India's claim to permanent membership of UNSC.

President of Chile Gabriel Boric's State Visit to India in April was a watershed moment in the bilateral relations, which infused new energy in the relationship and paved the way for enhanced engagement across sectors. During the visit, the two countries decided to launch negotiations for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement. Since then, four rounds of negotiations have already taken place. The visit also resulted in the signing of documents for cooperation in disaster management, mineral resources, Antarctica and cultural exchange program.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji hosted President of Chile Gabriel Boric during his State Visit to India, April 2025.

Vice-Minister of International Economic Affairs Claudio Sanhueza visited India in March to participate in the 10th CII India-Latin America Conclave. She again visited India in December to participate in the fourth round of CEPA negotiations. During these two visits she met the Minister of Commerce and Industry and discussed opportunities for increasing trade and economic relations between the two countries.

In January, a two-member Indian parliamentary delegation visited Chile to participate in the Summit meeting at the Congreso Futuro and the third World Summit of the Committees of the Future in Santiago. The delegation engaged with parliamentarians from Chile and across the world on a wide range of issues of bilateral and global interest.

The ninth India-Chile Foreign Office Consultations was co-chaired by Secretary (East) and Secretary General of Foreign Affairs Ambassador Rodrigo Olsen in Santiago on 10 November. The discussions spanned across themes including political, economic, defence, critical minerals, education, cultural and global issues.

India participated as Guest of Honour Country at ETM Day 2025, an innovation, entrepreneurship and investment event in Santiago in November. A large Indian pavilion was set up at the event by Indian companies showcasing a mix of Indian innovations, technologies, culture and education. The event helped in highlighting India's leadership in AI, Machine Learning, digital innovation and emerging technologies.

As of November, bilateral trade between India and Chile increased from USD 3.84 billion in 2024 to USD 4.59 billion. India emerged as the top supplier of pharmaceuticals to Chile in 2024 ahead of Germany and USA, accounting for 13.6% of Chile's total pharmaceutical imports.

Colombia

The year witnessed a series of diplomatic and political activities aimed at strengthening bilateral relations between India and Colombia, while reaffirming India's commitment to peace, security, and international cooperation.

EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia Rosa Yolanda Villavicencio on 26 September, on the sidelines of the India–CELAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting held in New York.



EAM met Minister of Foreign Affairs of Colombia Rosa Yolanda Villavicencio on the sidelines of the India-CELAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New York, September 2025.

An All-Party Parliamentary Delegation, led by a senior Member of the Lok Sabha paid an official visit to Colombia on 29-31 May. The purpose of the visit was to convey India's firm and resolute commitment to combating terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. The delegation interacted with senior officials from Colombia including Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Rosa Yolanda Villavicencio, various parliamentarians, journalists and media representatives, among others. The delegation conveyed India's zero-tolerance policy towards terrorism and its proactive approach to addressing cross-border threats.

Secretary (East) paid an official visit to Colombia on 21-22 August. During the visit, he held meetings with the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs, Ministers of Culture, Information & Communications Technology and Vice Minister of Commerce, Industry, and Tourism. The meetings underscored the shared commitment of both the countries to deepen political and economic cooperation, and enhance partnerships in innovation, technology, and people-to-people ties.

India was announced as the Guest of Honour Country for the 2026 Bogota International Book Fair (FILBo) on 5 August, marking an important milestone in cultural and literary exchange between India and Colombia.

In December, as part of India's global outreach on counter-terrorism, the exhibition 'Human Cost of Terrorism', was organized at the Gabriel García Márquez Cultural Center in Bogota on 9-15 December.

Bilateral trade for the period January – October stood at approximately USD 3.8 billion, with imports from Colombia at USD 2.4 billion and exports to Colombia of USD 1.4 billion. Various Export Promotion Councils such as The Cotton Textiles Export Promotion Council (TEXPROCIL), Manmade and Technical Textiles Export Promotion Council (MATEXIL), Services Export Promotion Council (SEPC), Trade Promotion Council of India (TPCI), led Indian delegations to Colombia during the year, providing further impetus to the bilateral trade relations. It is expected that a CEPA will be concluded between the two countries at an early date to further provide impetus to bilateral trade.

Ecuador

This year, Ecuador and India commemorated 56 years of diplomatic relations, marking an important milestone in their long-standing friendship. Bilateral trade for the period January - October stood at approximately USD 464 million, with imports from Ecuador at USD 126 million and exports to Ecuador of USD 338 million.

MoS (PM) visited Ecuador on 4-5 November. During his visit, he called on President of the Republic of

Ecuador Daniel Noboa Azin, met Foreign Minister Gabriela Sommerfeld, and other Ministers/Vice-Ministers.

The year also marked a significant upgrade in India's diplomatic engagement with Ecuador, with the opening of a resident Mission in Quito. MoS (PM) jointly inaugurated the Embassy with the Foreign Minister of Ecuador Gabriela Sommerfeld on 5 November in Quito. This development upgraded India's diplomatic presence from concurrent accreditation (previously handled by the Embassy in Bogota, Colombia) to a full-fledged resident Mission, reflecting India's commitment to deepening engagement with Latin America and the Global South.

In August, the 'Gandhi and Sacred India' exhibition was inaugurated in Cuenca by the Ambassador of India to Ecuador, alongside the city's Mayor Cristian Zamora, celebrating India's moral and spiritual legacy and deepening cultural cooperation with Ecuadorian academic and municipal institutions.

Guyana

Prime Minister of Guyana Brig (Ret'd) Mark Anthony Phillips visited India on 4-7 March to attend World Sustainable Development Summit. First Lady of Guyana Arya Ali visited India to attend the Kumbh Global Summit on Development and Sustainability in February. Minister of Health Frank Anthony visited India to attend International Health Dialogue on 21-22 February.

A five-member delegation led by the Permanent Secretary of Home Affairs of Guyana visited India on 13-18 April to attend the All-India Forensic Science Conference in New Delhi. A two-member team from National Forensics Science University (NFSU) visited Guyana on 23-26 June, and discussed the establishment of Forensic center in Guyana.

Taking the India-Guyana development partnership forward, an important road connectivity project, 'East Bank-East Coast Road Linkage Project', completed under LoC of USD 50 million was inaugurated on 1 July.

A team from ISRO participated in the Global Biodiversity Alliance Summit hosted by Guyana. The ISRO team focused on promoting space applications for sustainable development, biodiversity, disaster risk reduction and climate studies. It opens a new chapter in our growing multifaceted ties.

Paraguay

President of Paraguay Santiago Peña Palacios paid a State Visit to India on 2-4 June. President Peña was accompanied by the senior Ministers, members of Parliament, the Governor, and other senior officials. Prime Minister and President Peña held a comprehensive discussion on the entire spectrum of bilateral relations, including trade and investment, health and pharmaceuticals, defence and security, infrastructure, mining and mineral resources, agriculture and food security, green energy, ICTs, digitalisation, innovation, disaster management, science and technology, education and links between peoples. Both sides signed the agreement for the establishment of the Joint Commission Mechanism (JCM) at the level of Vice ministers. The JCM will serve as an important platform to review and explore collaboration in various sectors of common interest. Both sides also agreed to work together for expanding existing trade links under the India-MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA).



Prime Minister held a bilateral meeting with President of Paraguay Santiago Peña Palacios during his State Visit to India, June 2025.

Under the India–UN Development Partnership Fund, two key projects have been successfully completed in Paraguay. The first project, titled 'Prevention of Teenage Pregnancy and Violence/Sexual Abuse in Girls and Adolescents from an Intersectoral Approach' was completed in 2022 with a total value of USD 1 million. The project focussed on improving adolescent health and protecting young girls from violence and abuse. The second project, titled – 'Maternal and Child Health care' was completed in 2025 with a value of USD 1.49 million.

The Chamber of Senators of Paraguay's National Congress established the Paraguay-India Parliamentary Friendship Commission in October. The first meeting of India-Paraguay JCM took place on 14 November in Asuncion. It was co-chaired by Secretary (East) and Vice-Minister of Foreign Affairs of Paraguay Victor Verdun.

A High-Level Closing Event for the India-UN Development Partnership Fund USD 1.49 million project 'Extension of Access and Coverage in Maternal and Child Health in Remote Rural Areas, Indigenous Communities, and Border Areas of the Paraguayan Chaco' was held on 15 November in Asuncion. Secretary (East) participated as Guest of Honor and delivered the Keynote Address. Paraguay became member of Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) in December.

A delegation from RITES visited Paraguay in July to discuss rejuvenation of Railway Sector in Paraguay at the invitation of Paraguayan side.

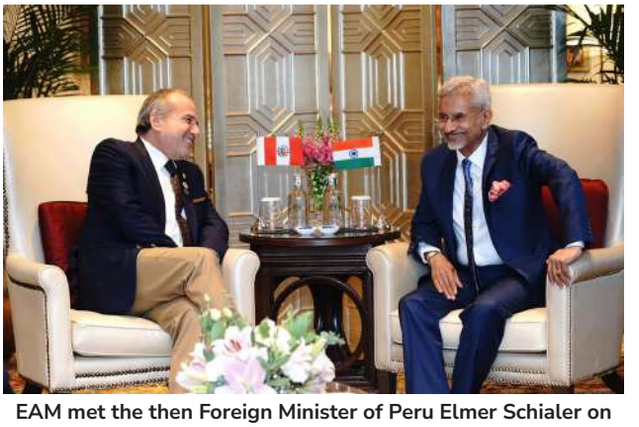
Peru

This was a pivotal year for India-Peru relations, marked by many high-level exchanges held during important events. The then Foreign Minister of Peru Elmer Schialer visited India on 16-20 March to participate in the Raisina Dialogue 2025. He also met EAM on the sidelines of the Dialogue, and discussed progress in bilateral/multilateral relations.

Minister of Foreign Trade and Tourism of Peru Ursula León visited India on 18-21 March and participated in the 10th CII India LAC Business conclave. During the visit, Minister León met Minister of Commerce and Industries and Minister of Culture & Tourism.

Secretary (East) and Joint Secretary (South America) visited Perú on 23-26 August. Secretary (East) met Vice Foreign Minister, Minister of Health and Vice Minister of Defence Resources during the visit.

Secretary (Agriculture) led five-member delegation to Peru on 1-6 June. The delegation visited the International Potato Center (CIP), Lima and interacted with the then Agriculture Minister of Peru Angel Manero, Rector of National Agricultural University.



EAM met the then Foreign Minister of Peru Elmer Schialer on the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue, March 2025.

A Rajya Sabha-member led the Indian delegation for 11th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians for Gender Equality, held at Lima on 11-13 September.

A 25-member Indian mining sector delegation led by Joint Secretary (Mines), participated in the biennial Mining Conclave PeruMin'25, held on 22-26 September. The Indian & Peruvian Mining Ministries also held the fourth meeting of Joint Working Group on Mining to further strengthen bilateral cooperation, on the sidelines of PeruMin'25.

India donated 2,50,000 bottles (100ml) of saline solution to Peru, upon the latter's request to tide over a health emergency. The consignment has reached Peru on 24 October and was handed over to the Peruvian side in a formal function on 12 December.

Indian Mission, Lima with Indian Association of Peru (IAP) celebrated Diwali and also donated funds

to 'San Daniel Comboni' Shelter, Lima, Peru on 25 October. Municipality of La Victoria in Lima region' as a friendship gesture lit up their historic Municipal Palace by Indian tricolour. On 28 November, Embassy organised an event to celebrate 150 years of Vande Mataram in collaboration with the 'Indian community in Peru' and 'Taurya Kathak Dance Group from USA'.

A 10-member delegation from Department of Commerce, Department of Revenue and other experts visited Peru on 3-5 November and conducted the ninth Round of negotiations for the Free Trade Agreement (FTA), which was held in Lima. The delegation was led by Joint Secretary (FT-LAC).

Peru continues to be among the top five trading partners of India in Latin America. India is the third largest trading partner, 11th largest source of imports and 3rd largest export destination for Peru. The trade between India and Peru during the Financial Year 2024-25 totaled USD 5.912 billion, of which India's exports were worth USD 1.002 billion and imports from Peru were USD 4.91 billion. The eighth round of negotiations for the India-Peru Free Trade Agreement (FTA) was conducted virtually in August and the ninth round took place in Lima on 3-5 November 2025.

Saint Kitts & Nevis

Saint Kitts and Nevis opened its Resident Mission in May, opening a new chapter in bilateral relations. Minister of Public Infrastructure, Energy and Utilities, Domestic Transport, Information, Communication and Technology, and Post Konris G. Maynard visited India on 27-30 October to attend the eighth General International Solar Alliance Assembly held in New Delhi.

A scoping team visited St. Kitts & Nevis on 30-31 October for a project site inspection under Development Partnership Administration programme of MEA, before supplying SME machinery and equipment under the USD 1 million SME Grant project extended to CARICOM nations.

Uruguay

Prime Minister met President of Uruguay Yamandú Orsi on 7 July, on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro. The leaders discussed deepening of bilateral relationship in areas such as trade, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, technology, and defence, among others. Prime Minister also conveyed India's decision to open a resident Mission in Montevideo.



Prime Minister met President of Uruguay Yamandú Orsi on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, July 2025.

MoS (PM) visited Uruguay on 28 February-1 March, to attend the swearing-in ceremony of President Yamandu Orsi. During the visit, he also interacted with the Minister of Industry, Energy and Mining Fernanda Cardona.

A four-member RITES delegation visited Uruguay on 10-11 July. The delegation held meetings and discussions with various Uruguayan authorities to explore investment opportunities in the logistics sector.

Venezuela

Acting President of Venezuela Delcy Rodriguez accompanied by a senior official delegation visited Delhi on 11-14 February to participate in the India Energy Week 2025. During her visit, an MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation (India Stack) was signed between Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and Venezuelan Ministry of Science and Technology on 12 February in New Delhi.

Minister of Foreign Trade Coromoto Godoy accompanied by Vice Minister for Asia, Middle East and Oceania (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) Tatiana Pugh participated in the 10th CII India-LAC Conclave on 19-20 March.

A two-member delegation led by Vice Minister for the development of Information and Communication Technologies Raul Hernandez, visited Delhi on 14-17 September. The delegation aimed to explore the possibility of implementation of Indian DPIs including DigiLocker, AADHAAR and UPI platform in Venezuela.

The Government of India sanctioned a grant of USD 976,500 under India-UNDP Development Partnership Fund for the project, 'Support for Social Inclusion, Culture of Peace and Resilience of Children, Adolescents and Young People through Music Education' also known as 'El Sistema'. The project was launched on 22 September in the presence of Vice President Delcy Rodriguez.

Minister for Ecological Mining Development of Venezuela Hector Silva visited India on 14-15 November to attend the CII Partnership Summit held in Visakhapatnam. During the visit, he met Minister for Commerce & Industry on 15 November and held discussions on issues of bilateral interest.

At the request of the Government of Venezuela, the Government of India has agreed to donate four types of vaccines valued at approximately USD 1.136 million. The vaccines were handed over to Sectoral Vice President for Science & Technology, Health and Education of Venezuela Gabriela Jiminez on 16 November.

The fifth round of FOC between India and Venezuela, co-chaired by Secretary (East) and Vice Minister for Asia, the Middle East and Oceania, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Venezuela Tatiana Pugh, took place in New Delhi on 26 November. The full spectrum of bilateral relations between the two countries were reviewed in the meeting.

Central America

In 2025, India's relations with the countries of Central America and Caribbean region steadily strengthened across several areas and marked by strong cooperation at regional and multilateral fora such as CARICOM (Caribbean Community), SICA (Central American Integration System) and CELAC (Community of Latin American and Caribbean States). The increased political engagements during 2025 provided a renewed momentum to the relationships.

Prime Minister paid a state visit to Trinidad and Tobago on 3-4 July, highlighting the importance the region holds for India. On the sidelines of multilateral events, Prime Minister met President of Mexico Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo in June and President of Cuba Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez in July.

The fifth India-SICA (Central American Integration System) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, was held on the sidelines of the High-Level Week of the UNGA in New York on 25 September. The meeting was co-chaired by the EAM from Indian side and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama Javier Martínez-Acha, in his capacity as Pro Tempore Presidency of SICA.



EAM co-chaired the fifth India-SICA (Central American Integration System) Foreign Ministers' Meeting, on the sidelines of the 8th session of the UNGA in New York, September 2025.

Separately, EAM and the Foreign Ministers of Jamaica, Costa Rica & Nicaragua, Deputy Foreign Ministers of Cuba & Dominican Republic and the Vice Minister of Guatemala participated in the India-CELAC Expanded Troika Foreign Ministers Meeting in New York on 26 September. Separately, on the sidelines of UNGA in New York, EAM met with his counterparts from Panama, St. Vincent and Grenadines, Nicaragua, Suriname, St. Lucia, Guatemala, Cuba, Costa Rica, Mexico and Jamaica.

MoS (PM) visited Bahamas, Barbados and Nicaragua and Cuba in 2025.

India's bilateral trade with the region increased to USD 10.013 billion during FY 2025-26 (April-December), a testament to the strength and potential of economic partnership. The 10th edition of the CII India-LAC Conclave was held on 19-20 March.

With the opening of Honduras' Mission in India in 2025, the number of resident Missions from the region in New Delhi increased to 11. Jaipur Foot Camps for providing prosthetic limbs to disabled persons were held in Guatemala, Trinidad & Tobago and Nicaragua during 2025.

Belize

Prime Minister of Belize John Briceno unveiled a statue of Mahatma Gandhi on 10 January at the Belmopan campus of the University of Belize. Prime Minister Briceno also planted a Peepal Tree sapling under the campaign Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam near the statue. Inspired by the ideals of Mahatma Gandhi, the University lawn around the statue was named as Peace Park.

CEO of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Amalia Mai participated in the fifth India-SICA Foreign Ministers' Meeting held on 25 September, on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York.

A multi-country aid project, also covering Belize, and financed through the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, on 'Strengthening of the Maternal and Child Health Services (MCH) in CARICOM Member States to support the attainment, maintenance and sustainability of the elimination of Mother-to-Child transmission (EMTCT) Plus of HIV, Syphilis and Hepatitis B', was launched on 27 March. The USD 1 million project is implemented by Pan American Health Organization (PAHO).

The 11th International Day of Yoga was celebrated at several locations in Belize.

Costa Rica

Vice Minister of Multilateral Affairs of Costa Rica Alejandro Solano Ortiz attended the India–SICA Virtual Dialogue on 18 June.

The 'Namaste Pura Vida' mural was unveiled in May at Janpath Metro Station in New Delhi, commemorating 55 years of India-Costa Rica diplomatic relations, symbolising the growing cultural and economic ties between the two countries.

Foreign Minister of Costa Rica Arnoldo André participated in the fifth India-SICA Foreign Ministers' Meeting in New York on 25 September.

Costa Rica joined the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) in October. The first round of the India-Costa Rica Consular Dialogue was held in San José in November.

El Salvador

Minister of Economy of El Salvador María Luisa Hayem Brevé led a two-member official delegation to attend the 10th CII India-LAC Conclave, held in New Delhi on 19-20 March.

During the 15th Edition of 'Aero India', organized by the Ministry of Defence, in Bengaluru, Karnataka, from 10-14 February, Chief of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces Vice Admiral Exon Oswaldo Ascencio Albeño, and Commander-in-Chief of the El Salvador Air Force Colonel P.A. DEM Pablo Alberto Soriano Cruz, participated in the event.

Miriam Cecibel Cornejo Acosta from Ministry of Foreign Affairs, participated in the third Global South Young Diplomat Forum organised by Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), in September. Fredy Alexander Flores Gonzales, a Foreign Service officer participated in the first Special course for Diplomats organized by SSIFS in November.

Guatemala

Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of Guatemala (in-charge of Trade and Commerce) Julio Eduardo Orozco Perez, attended the 10th CII India-LAC Conclave held in New Delhi on 19-20 March and held a bilateral meeting with MoS (Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises) on 20 March.

Deputy Chief of the National Defence Staff and Brigadier General Aramis Rosalio Fuentes Orozco participated during the 15th Edition of 'Aero India' organised by the Ministry of Defence, in Bengaluru on 10-14 February.

An ITEC training programme was organized in February at the National Institute of Labour Economics Research and Development (NILERD), New Delhi. A total of 29 Guatemalan participants, including Judges of the Supreme Court and officials from key Government institutions such as INACIF participated.

International Day of Yoga was celebrated in San Pedro Carchá, Cobán on 13 June. The event attracted over 10,000 participants.

An Indian delegation comprising members of NABARD Consultancy (NABCONS) conducted a scoping visit of the Don Bosco Association and Talita Kumi Schools in Coban in November, to finalise project details for donation of USD 1 million worth of machineries to two schools in Guatemala. Gita Mahotsav was celebrated in Guatemala on 27 November.

Honduras

A resident Mission of the Republic of Honduras was opened in New Delhi on 15 May, during Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras Eduardo Enrique Reina García's official visit to India. The mission was jointly inaugurated by EAM and Foreign Minister Eduardo Enrique Reina García.

Vice Minister for Consular and Migratory Affairs of Honduras Antonio García C participated in the 10th CII India–LAC Conclave, held in New Delhi on 19-20 March.

India approved a USD 800,000 grant under the India–UNDP Fund for the project 'Access to Climate Resilient and Safe Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) Services)' in the Gracias a Dios Department, one of Honduras's most vulnerable regions. The Government of India also extended 26 tonnes of humanitarian assistance to Honduras in April, following the devastation caused by Tropical Storm Sara.

An MoU was signed with Government of Honduras for donation of USD 1 million worth of fruits processing plant in October 2025. This SME machinery will be installed in UNAG campus in Comayagua. Separately, three officers from Honduras participated in the first Special course for Diplomats organized by SSIFS in November.



EAM and Foreign Minister of Honduras Eduardo Enrique Reina García jointly inaugurated a resident Mission of Honduras in New Delhi, May 2025.

Mexico

Prime Minister and President of Mexico Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo held a bilateral meeting on 17 June, on the sidelines of the 51st G7 Leaders' Summit, in Kananaskis, Canada. They discussed strengthening of the relationship between India and Mexico focused on scientific and technological development.



Prime Minister and President of Mexico Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo held a bilateral meeting on the sidelines of the 51st G7 Leaders' Summit in Kananaskis, June 2025.

EAM met his Mexican counterpart Juan Ramon de la Fuente on 7 July, on the sidelines of the BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. He also met him on 25 September on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York, as well as on 11 November in Niagara, on the sidelines of the G7 Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Outreach Partners.

Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India visited Mexico on 12-15 May to participate in the Meeting of the Board of Trustees of CIMMYT. During the visit, he held bilateral meetings with Minister of Science, Technology, Innovation and Humanities of Mexico Rosaura Ruiz Gutiérrez, Minister of Economy of Mexico Marcelo Ebrard, Minister of Health of Mexico David Kershenobich Stalnikowitz, and Minister of Agriculture of Mexico Julio Antonio Berdegué Sacristán at CIMMYT.

A delegation comprising three women members of parliamentarians from Rajya Sabha visited Mexico City on 12-18 March to attend the first IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians.

Viksit Bharat Run 2025 was organized from the Mahatma Gandhi Monument in Chapultepec Park to the iconic monument of the Angel of Independence, in Mexico City on 29 September. Minister of Environment of Mexico City Julia Alvarez Icaza Ramirez flagged off the run.

President of Mexico's Business Coordinating Council (CCE) Francisco Cervantes, led a business delegation to India and participated in the FICCI LEADS

Conference 2025 on 10 – 11 September. An MoU was signed between the FICCI and the CCE during the event. He also called on the Minister of Commerce and Industry of India.

The 11th International Day of Yoga was celebrated at several locations including iconic Plaza de las Tres Culturas in Mexico City and Mexican jails, among others.

Head of Mexican Agency for Digital Transformation and Telecommunications José Antonio Peña Merino visited India on 10-14 November. During his visit, he met Principal Scientific Adviser, Chairman, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI), CEO, National Health Authority (NHA), and Deputy Director General of Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) in New Delhi. During his trip to India, he also visited the facility of Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) in Mumbai, and met Director General, Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC) in Bengaluru.

Governor of the State of Aguascalientes María Teresa Jiménez Esquivel visited Chennai. During the visit, she met Tamil Nadu's Minister of Higher Education and Minister of Industries. She also held meetings with executives from RANE, LUCAS TVS, TAFE, and Simpson. Minister of Economy of the State of Aguascalientes Esau Garza, who accompanied her to Chennai, also attended the CII Partnership Summit held at Visakhapatnam on 14-15 November.

Nicaragua

In March, MoS (PM) undertook the first-ever ministerial visit from MEA to Nicaragua. He held meetings with Foreign Minister Valdrack Jaentschke, senior ministers from finance, commerce, energy, health, and education, as well as the President of the Central Bank.

In September, under the Government of India's Line of Credit (LOC), an electric substation and the 138 kV transmission line connecting the La Esperanza and La Gateada substations was commissioned and inaugurated by the Minister of Energy of Nicaragua.

In September-October, a Jaipur Foot Camp was organised in Nicaragua providing over 400 prosthetic fittings for people with disabilities.



MoS (PM) met Foreign Minister of Nicaragua Valdrack Jaentschke during his visit to the country, March 2025.

Panama

An umbrella MoU between India and Panama on implementation of QIPs was signed in February.

In March, Propanama Administrator Gerardo Peláez attended the 10th CII LAC Conclave. He met EAM to boost trade and investment ties. A CII–ProPanama MoU was signed to deepen institutional collaboration. CBDT Member participated in the third Network of Tax Organizations Conference in Panama.

A Multiparty Parliamentary Delegation from India visited Panama in May. The delegation met the President of Panama, Jose Raul Mulino, Foreign Minister of Panama and President of the National Assembly Martínez Acha.

The 11th International Day of Yoga saw record participation at Old Panama City. In July, Vice Minister Carlos Hoyos visited India for talks with MoS (PM), Secretary (West), Ministry of Commerce and IIT Delhi

officials, reiterating Panama's support for India's self-defence and UNSC candidature.

India and Panama signed five MoUs to implement QIPS in November. Vice Minister of Economy Eida Gabriela Saiz, participated in the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes held in New Delhi in December.

SICA (Central American Integration System)

The Fifth India-SICA (Central American Integration System) Foreign Ministers' Meeting was held on 25 September, in New York, on the sidelines of the High-Level Week of the 80th Session of the UNGA. The meeting was co-chaired by EAM and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Panama Javier Martínez-Acha, in his capacity as Pro Tempore Presidency of SICA.

The meeting undertook a comprehensive review of the entire spectrum of India–SICA relations. It was agreed to focus on South–South Cooperation and to strengthen collaboration in key sectors. The Ministers exchanged views on regional and multilateral issues including cooperation in the United Nations & other multilateral bodies.

Caribbean Countries

CARICOM

India-CARICOM relations continued to gain momentum with both sides working on the various decisions taken during second India - CARICOM Summit co-chaired by the Prime Minister and Prime Minister of Grenada Dickon Mitchell in November 2024.

In 2025, 579 ITEC civilian slots and 85 ITEC Defence slots were allocated to the CARICOM member countries for training of their officials. A specialised professional course for diplomats from CARICOM member countries along with diplomats from other Latin American countries was organised at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service on 29 October-7 November. 10 participants from Trinidad and Tobago attended the Purohit Course, organized by the Bharat Adhyayan Kendra, Banaras Hindu University (BHU) on 1-27 December. A customised course 'Enhancing Census Preparedness in Caribbean for CARICOM countries' was organised at National Statistical Systems Training Academy (NSSTA), Noida on 18-31 December.

India is working towards the solarisation of government buildings in Jamaica, Trinidad & Tobago, Suriname and St. Vincent and Grenadines. Prosthetic limb camps in association with Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayata Samiti were organised in Guyana and Trinidad & Tobago.

India is also carrying out development cooperation projects in CARICOM member states. India is doing quick impact projects in CARICOM member states and has supplied SME machinery to Trinidad & Tobago, Suriname and St. Vincent & Grenadines in areas like fruit processing, vegetable processing and vocational training.

The Bahamas

In a first ever standalone bilateral Ministerial visit to the Bahamas, MoS (PM) visited the Bahamas on 2-4 March. During his visit, MoS (PM) called on Prime Minister of the Bahamas Philip Davis and held bilateral discussions with Foreign Minister Fredrick Mitchell.

Under the India-UN Development Partnership Fund, India provided assistance of USD 1 million for building Abaco Hurricane Shelter Project. The handing over ceremony organized on 23 October, in presence of Prime Minister of the Bahamas Philip Davis.

Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Energy and Transport of the Commonwealth Government of The Bahamas Kingsley Smith led a three-member delegation to attend the second edition of Sagarmanthan: The Great Oceans Dialogue, held in Mumbai on 27-29 October. Two diplomats from The Bahamas attended the first Special Course for Diplomats organized by SSIFS on 29 October - 7 November.



MoS (PM) called on Prime Minister of the Bahamas Philip Davis in Nassau, March 2025.

Barbados

MoS (PM) visited Barbados in March. During his visit, he received the 'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados' award, on behalf of Prime Minister and held bilateral level talks focused on digital public infrastructure, development partnerships, mobility, cultural linkages, and deepening people-to-people ties.

The Lok Sabha Speaker led a parliamentary delegation to participate in the 68th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in October, enabling interactions and engagements along with bilateral discussions on the sidelines with several participating countries.

An MoU was signed on 30 July, for the Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) to establish a coconut processing plant supporting local micro and small enterprises and farmers.

In January, the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award was conferred upon Philomena Ann Mohini Harris for her contributions to medical science and promotion of India's prestige.

Minister of Culture and Tourism interacted with Cultural Minister of Barbados Shantal Munro-Knight, Ambassador Nicolla Simone Rudder and Karen Mascoll in New Delhi on 12 December, on the side lines of the 20th session of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee (IGC).

Minister of Health and Wellness of Barbados Senator Jerome Walcott, visited India and participated in the second edition of the World Health Organisation (WHO) Global Summit on Traditional Medicine, held on 17-19 December.



MoS (PM) accepted the prestigious 'Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados' on behalf of Prime Minister at the Government House in Bridgetown, March 2025.

Commonwealth of Dominica

Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Business, Trade & Energy of Dominica Vince Henderson participated in the eighth Session of the Assembly of the International Solar Alliance held in New Delhi on 27-30 October.

The flagship project for 'Strengthening Sustainable Livelihoods and Resilience in the Kalinago Territory Phase II' was implemented in Dominica during the year with a support of USD 1 million under the India-

UNDP fund through the UN Office of the South-South Cooperation (UNOSSC). Kalinago is the indigenous community based in Dominica.

India and Dominica signed an umbrella MoU on 24 July for implementation of five Quick Impact Projects in Dominica with a support of USD 50,000 for each project.

Cuba

Prime Minister met President of Cuba Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez, on the side-lines of BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro on 6 July.



Prime Minister met President of Cuba Miguel Diaz-Canel Bermudez on the sidelines of BRICS Summit in Rio de Janeiro, July 2025.

Deputy Prime Minister of Cuba Eduardo Martinez Diaz visited India on 17-21 March to participate in Raisina Dialogue and 10th CII India-LAC Summit. During his visit to the country, he held meetings with EAM, Minister of Commerce and Industry, Minister of Health and Family Welfare and MoS (S&T).

The first preliminary meeting of the JWG on Biotechnology was held virtually on 13 February to discuss cooperation in the field of Biotechnology. The first meeting of the JWG on Health was held in virtual-mode on 25 February, between the officials of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare of India and the Ministry of Public Health of Cuba.

Head of the Cuban Pharma and Medical Devices Regulatory Authority (CECMED) Olga Lidia Jacobo Casanueva, and Director (Medicines and Medical Technology), Ministry of Public Health Maria Cristina Lara Bastanzuri participated in the second meeting of Policy Makers on Indian Pharmacopoeia on 14-19 June and signed the MoU on Pharmacopoeia Cooperation to recognise Indian Pharmacopoeia.

Following the onset of hurricanes 'Oscar', 'Rafael' and earthquakes that struck Cuba, India supplied approximately 43 tonnes of essential medicines of worth USD 1 Million to its Caribbean partner. The supplies were sent in four tranches and comprised antibiotics, anti-pyretics, pain killers, ORS and muscle relaxants, among others.

MoS (PM) visited Cuba on 9-10 November. He held meetings with President of Cuba, two Deputy Prime Ministers, Minister for Foreign Trade and Foreign Investment and Acting Foreign Minister. During his visit, two documents - Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance on Criminal Matters and Protocol on Cultural Exchange Programme between India and Cuba for 2025-2030 were signed.

Following the devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa, a consignment of 20 tonnes of HADR including relief material, medicines and Aarogya Maitri BHISHM Cube was sent to Cuba by a special aircraft of the Indian Air Force in November.

A three-member delegation from Cuba Ministry of Public Health participated in the second edition of the WHO Global Health Summit on Traditional Medicine on 17-19 December. During the visit, an MoU on Establishment of Academic Cooperation between the All-India Institute of Ayurveda and the University of Medical Science of Havana was signed. The second meeting of the Joint Working Group on Health to discuss cooperation in the field of Ayurveda, Yoga and Homoeopathy was held on 18 December in New Delhi.

Dominican Republic (DR)

Vice Minister of Military Affairs of DR Major General Miguel Ángel Rubio Báez visited India on 9-13 February to participate in Aero India 2025 in Bengaluru. This marked the first-ever visit by a representative from the Defence Ministry of DR. During his visit, the Vice Minister of Military Affairs held bilateral meeting with MoS (Defence).

Vice Minister for promotion of MSME Jorge Morales Paulino attended the 10th CII India-LAC Conclave from 19-20 March. He met with MoS (MSME) and discussed areas of cooperation in MSME sector. He also met Secretary (Mines).

TATA Motors officially launched its operations in DR on 12 August in the commercial vehicles sector, marking a significant milestone in the trade and investment relations between the two countries.

On 4 August, India and DR signed a Joint Action Plan (JAP) between Director General of Customs, DR and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), India.

Grenada

Minister for Climate Resilience, the Environment and Renewable Energy of Grenada Kerryne Z. James participated in the eighth Session of the Assembly of the International Solar Alliance on 27-30 October in New Delhi.

Haiti

Director in Ministry of Environment of Haiti Vladimir Chéry and Counselor to the Minister Dwinel Belizaire participated in the eighth Assembly of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in New Delhi on 27-30 October. Two Haitian diplomats participated in the first Special Course for CSACI countries conducted at Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, New Delhi from 29 October-7 November.

Jamaica

10 May is observed as India Heritage Day in Jamaica. The year 2025 was celebrated as commemoration of 180 Years of arrival of Indians in Jamaica. The Mission, in collaboration with National Council for Indian Culture in Jamaica and Ministry of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports of Jamaica organized a three-day celebration of India Arrival Day. A cultural troupe from ICCR also participated in the India Arrival Day celebrations.

Foreign Minister Kamina Johnson Smith participated in the High-Level Meeting of Like-Minded Global South Countries on the sidelines of UNGA80 on 23 September. The event was hosted by India and chaired by EAM. Subsequently, Foreign Minister Smith participated in Indian-CELAC Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of UNGA80 on 26 September.

India gifted an Electronic Scoreboard with a value of USD 1 million to the Jamaica Cricket Association for the Sabina Cricket Stadium, which was handed over on 19 July in presence of Minister for Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sports of Jamaica Olivia Grange.

India handed-over 60 tonnes of HADR to Jamaica on 1 May, in the presence of Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade Smith and Senior officials from Office of Preparation for Disaster and Emergency Response.

Minister of Health and Wellness of Jamaica Christopher Tufton visited India on 8-11 April and held bilateral meetings with Minister for Health and Family Welfare and MoS (PM).

Prime Minister interacted with Prime Minister of Jamaica Andrew Holness, on the sidelines of the G20 Summit held in Johannesburg on 23 November. Prime Minister Holness thanked India for providing swift and generous medical and relief assistance following Hurricane Melissa.

Following the devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa, a consignment of 20 tonnes of HADR including BHISM Modular Trauma Kit was sent to Jamaica by C-17 aircraft of the IAF on 6 November.

Two Jamaican Diplomats attended the first Special Course for Diplomats organized by SSIFS on 29 October - 7 November.

Saint Lucia

EAM held bilateral discussions with Foreign Minister of Saint Lucia Alva Baptiste, during the High-Level Meeting of Like-Minded Global South Countries on the sidelines of the 80th UNGA on 23 September.

India and Saint Lucia signed an agreement for implementing five Quick Impact Projects in October.

Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (SVG)

On 23 September, Foreign Minister of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Frederick Stephenson participated at the second edition of L69 & C10 Joint Ministerial meeting hosted by EAM, on the margins of 80th UNGA.

India and SVG formalised five Quick Impact Projects through MoUs signed in February, with implementation commencing in May. Under SME development initiative, agro-processing machinery was supplied under a USD 1 million grant to establish processing and packaging facilities for leafy and root vegetables in three key regions.



India and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines formalised five Quick Impact Projects through MoUs, February 2025.

Suriname

EAM held bilateral talks with Foreign Minister of Suriname Melvin J. Bouva on the sidelines of the 80th UNGA on 24 September.

Under the grant of USD 1 million, agro-processing machinery was supplied to boost agricultural value chain. An early warning system project under India-UNDP Fund for flooding resilience was handed over in March. Suriname joined the IBCA (International Big Cat Alliance) by signing the Framework Agreement on 20 May.

India expanded its development partnership with Suriname, by providing food grant assistance worth USD 10 million to support the latter's social welfare programs. Separately, four QIPs were completed and fifth QIP for supply and installation of a safe pedestrian crossing light installation including accessories near the Lyceum School Complex is under implementation. An agreement to implement additional five QIPs was signed in September.

Trinidad and Tobago (T&T)

Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Trinidad & Tobago on 3-4 July. He was received by Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago Kamla Persad-Bissessar and her entire Cabinet at the airport. During his visit, the Prime Minister was conferred with the 'Order of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago' (ORTT), the highest National Award of the country. Prime Minister addressed a Joint Assembly of the both Houses of the T&T Parliament as well as a gathering of more than 4,000 Indian diaspora in Trinidad and announced issuance of OCI Cards up to sixth generation of the diaspora. Additionally, Prime Ministers of both countries reviewed the entire gamut of bilateral ties and a total of six MoUs /Agreements were exchanged during the visit in the fields of Pharmacopoeia, Diplomatic Training, Quick Impact Projects, Culture, Sports, and for setting up of Chairs of Hindi and Indian Studies at the University of West Indies.



Prime Minister was conferred with the 'Order of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago' (ORTT) by President of Trinidad & Tobago Christine Carla Kangaloo at Port of Spain, July 2025.

Prime Minister handed over agro-processing machinery worth USD 1 million to Trinidad & Tobago's National Agriculture Marketing and Development Corporation. Trinidad & Tobago also announced to join the CDRI and the Global Bio-fuel Alliance during the visit. Other announcements made during the visit

inter-alia include a gift of 2000 laptops to support Trinidad & Tobago's flagship educational programme, 20 Haemodialysis Units and two Sea ambulances to assist in the provision of better-quality healthcare, and solar electrification of Trinidad & Tobago's Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs.

President of Trinidad & Tobago Christine Carla Kangaloo was the Chief Guest at the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas (PBD) held in Bhubaneswar on 6-9 January. She addressed the inaugural session of the PBD virtually. She was also conferred with Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA).

Prime Minister of Trinidad & Tobago Kamla Persad-Bissessar inaugurated the Artificial Limb Fitment Camp (Jaipur Foot) in Port of Spain on 3 October in the presence of the entire Cabinet, community leaders and select beneficiaries. The 50-day camp was done in Diwali Nagar in Central Trinidad for 800 beneficiaries.

Minister in the Ministry of Health of Trinidad & Tobago Rishad Seecheran, visited India on 17-21 December to attend the second edition of the WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in New Delhi.

A gift of 19,000 MT Rice and 12,500 Liter edible oil (Mustard & Soya bean) from the Haryana State Cooperative Supply & Marketing Federation Limited (HAFED) was handed over to T&T's Ministry of Agriculture, Land & Fisheries on 21 May.

A 50-day Artificial Limb Fitment camp was organised at the Diwali Nagar in Central Trinidad in October-November for fitment of 800 limbs to the beneficiaries.

A batch of ten Pundits from Trinidad & Tobago attended a special Purohitya course under ITEC at the Banaras Hindu University (BHU) on 28 November-27 December.

CHAPTER

10

Indo-Pacific

India's vision for the Indo-Pacific focuses on a free, open and rules-based Indo-Pacific. India emphasises respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations in the region, equality among all nations, peaceful resolution of disputes, avoidance of the use or threat of use of force, and adherence to international laws, rules, and regulations. India's objective is to have a multi-faceted engagement with all countries in the region and those with interests in it, encompassing political, security, economic, and socio-cultural spheres, aimed at Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions (MAHASAGAR).

During the year, India's engagement with various mechanisms in the Indo-Pacific frameworks, including inter alia, Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN), East Asia Summit (EAS), Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA), Asia-Europe Meeting (ASEM), Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC), Indian Ocean Commission (IOC), Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) and Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT), witnessed a steady rise.

Association of Southeast Asian Nations

India's relationship with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) is a key pillar of its foreign policy and the cornerstone of its Act East Policy and the Indo-Pacific vision, that was thereafter built on it. India supports ASEAN unity and centrality in the evolving architecture in the Indo-Pacific. Formal engagement of India with ASEAN began in 1992 as a Sectoral Dialogue Partner and, subsequently, as a Dialogue Partner in 1996, which was upgraded to the Summit level in 2002, Strategic Partnership in 2012, and Comprehensive Strategic Partnership in 2022.

India and ASEAN have a comprehensive engagement covering a wide array of areas at all levels, including six Ministerial engagements in Foreign Affairs, Commerce, Tourism, Agriculture, Digital, and Defence,

as well as official-level dialogues across various areas of cooperation.

Engagement with ASEAN is a multi-level interaction process. At the apex is the annual ASEAN-India Summit, supported by the ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting and the ASEAN-India Senior Officials' Meeting. The Prime Minister participated virtually in the 22nd ASEAN-India Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 26 October and reviewed progress in ASEAN-India relations alongside the ASEAN Leaders. The Prime Minister also congratulated Timor-Leste on becoming the 11th member of ASEAN. This was Prime Minister's 12th participation in the ASEAN-India Summit. At the Summit, the Prime Minister announced the designation of the year 2026 as the 'ASEAN-India Year of Maritime Cooperation' to forge partnerships in the blue economy. The Prime Minister also announced adoption of the ASEAN-India Joint Leaders' Statement on Sustainable Tourism to strengthen tourism cooperation.

MoS (PM) led the Indian delegation at the ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting (AIFMM) held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 10 July. In his remarks, MoS (PM) praised progress in implementing the Prime Minister's 10-point proposal, announced at the 21st ASEAN-India Summit in Lao PDR in 2024. This proposal aims to further strengthen the ASEAN-India Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

Deep-rooted civilisational linkages between India and ASEAN were further strengthened through a range of people-centric events. The year was designated as the ASEAN-India Year of Tourism. To mark this occasion, several events were held, including the ASEAN-India Tour Professional Exchange Programme in Malaysia on 18-20 April, Thailand on 26-28 August, and Vietnam on 4-6 September.

During his official visit to Malaysia on 18-19 April, MoS (PM) inaugurated the India-ASEAN Tourism Pavilion at the Malaysian Association of Tour and Travel Agents (MATTA) Fair in Kuala Lumpur, which was held as part of the ASEAN-India Year of Tourism in 2025. MoS (PM) also held a meeting with over 80 tourism professionals, including 45 from India and the remaining from ASEAN Member States. This was held in partnership with Assam Tourism Development Corporation (ATDC) and highlights the vast tourism potential in India, with special focus on Northeast India.

Minister of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW) inaugurated the first-ever ASEAN-India Cruise Dialogue in Chennai on 30 June. Hosted by India, the meeting was attended by representatives from all ASEAN member nations, including Timor-Leste. The dialogue aims to strengthen maritime cooperation, enhance cruise connectivity, and promote sustainable tourism across the Indo-Pacific region.

Other activities include the fifth ASEAN-India Youth Summit in Goa on 28-31 August, the third ASEAN-India Artists' Camp in New Delhi and Shillong on 29 March-7 April and ASEAN-India Scalehub for Startups in Indonesia on 3-5 July. Scholarship programmes for ASEAN Students at the Nalanda University and various Agricultural Universities also continued to be implemented.



MoS (PM) attended ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, July 2025

Improving connectivity with ASEAN has been a key focus of India's Act East policy. Currently, there are direct flights to nine Member States, which is crucial for businesses and tourism. Emerging fintech collaboration and digital connectivity shall further strengthen partnerships with ASEAN. Some ASEAN Member States have also emerged as key technology partners.

ASEAN has emerged as a key trade partner, a significant source and destination for foreign direct investment. To further expand cooperation, a review of the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA) is underway, while efforts are underway to enhance practical cooperation in maritime, cybersecurity, the digital economy, and new and emerging areas.

A new ASEAN-India Plan of Action (2026-2030) was adopted this year for strengthening the India-ASEAN Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

East Asia Summit

Established in 2005, the Leaders-led East Asia Summit (EAS) format is the most vital part of the ASEAN-led frameworks, primarily because of its contribution to building a strategic trust environment in the region. India sees the EAS as the logical platform for promoting a free, open, transparent, rules-based, peaceful, and prosperous Indo-Pacific region.

India's engagement with EAS is a multilevel interaction process, at the apex of which are the EAS supported by the EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting (EAS FMM) and the EAS Senior Officials' Meeting (EAS SOM). EAM represented India and delivered India's National Statement at the 20th East Asia Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 27 October. In the statement, EAM highlighted India's strong commitment to enhance maritime cooperation, in line with the ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP) and shared dedication to the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS).



EAM attended the 20th East Asia Summit 2025, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, October 2025

India hosted participating countries of the EAS for the Knowledge Exchange Workshop on Energy Efficiency Policies and Programmes – Lifestyle for Environment and the Conclave of Heads of Higher Educational Institutions at Nalanda University in India on 17-19 September.

Indian Ocean Commission

In 2020, India became an observer member of the Indian Ocean Commission (IOC). India continues to engage with the Western Indian Ocean countries in the IOC as an observer.

Indian Ocean Rim Association

India has been a founding member of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) since its establishment in 1997. India is currently the Vice-Chair of IORA for the period 2023-25. India is also leading the Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security and Blue Economy during this period. These decisions were announced during the Council of Ministers Meeting held in Colombo in October 2023, which was attended by EAM.

In 2025, India participated in the 27th Committee of Senior Officials (CSO) and the 24th Council of Ministers (COM), both organised virtually on 19-21 May under the Chairship of Sri Lanka. The fifth Working Group on Maritime Safety and Security (WGMSS) meeting, the second under Indian leadership, was held virtually

on 2 May, during which the WGMSS work plan was updated. India also attended the third Working Group on Disaster Risk Management (WGDRM) meeting, held virtually on 14 May, during which the WGDRM work plan was updated. India also joined the Ad-hoc Committee established under IORA Sub-Committee on Finance (SCF) to strengthen the Secretariat's business processes.

India assumed the Chairship of IORA for the 2025-2027 term on 12 November. The Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) organised a diplomatic training program in New Delhi on 8-13 December to enhance the capacity of IORA Secretariat officials. Designed in line with India's MAHASAGAR vision, the six-day course titled Special Course on Functional Competencies for Smarter Diplomacy was attended by 31 diplomats and officials from Mauritius, Seychelles, and the IORA Secretariat.

Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative

In June 2018, the Prime Minister outlined India's vision for the Indo-Pacific region in his speech delivered at the Shangri-La Dialogue in Singapore. India calls for a free and open Indo-Pacific, based upon respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all nations, peaceful resolution of disputes through dialogue, and adherence to international rules and laws. India's concept of the Indo-Pacific supports an approach that respects the right of all to freedom of navigation and overflight in international waters. India's approach is based on cooperation and collaboration, given the need for shared responses to regional challenges, and is premised on the principle of 'ASEAN-Centrality'.

In November 2019, the Prime Minister launched the Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI) at the 14th East Asia Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand. As an open global initiative, the IPOI draws on existing regional cooperation architecture and mechanisms to focus on seven central pillars: Maritime Security; Maritime Ecology; Maritime Resources; Capacity Building and Resource Sharing; Disaster Risk Reduction and Management; Science, Technology and Academic Cooperation; and Trade Connectivity and Maritime Transport.

In response to India's invitation to international collaboration within the IPOI framework, several countries have assumed leadership roles across various pillars. The UK has agreed to co-lead the Maritime Security pillar along with India; Australia and Thailand are leading the Maritime Ecology pillar; France and Indonesia have jointly agreed to lead the Marine Resources pillar; India and Bangladesh are co-leads on the Disaster Risk Reduction and Management pillar; Germany, the EU and Netherlands have decided to lead the Capacity Building and Resource Sharing pillar; Singapore and Italy are co-leading the Science, Technology, and Academic Cooperation pillar; and Japan and the US are co-leading Trade Connectivity and Maritime Transport pillar. During the year, New Zealand and Fiji joined the IPOI in March and August, respectively. In October, EAM highlighted the joining of new members and the expanding strength of IPOI at the 20th East Asia Summit held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia on 27 October.



31 Diplomats and officers from Mauritius, Seychelles and the IORA Secretariat participated in a Special Course on Functional Competencies for Smarter Diplomacy at SSIFS, New Delhi, December 2025.

Mekong Ganga Cooperation

Established in 2000, Mekong-Ganga Cooperation (MGC) is the oldest sub-regional mechanism in the Mekong sub-region. To give a further boost to the cooperation under MGC, the member states agreed to further streamline the functioning of MGC under the ten identified areas of tourism, culture, education, public health and traditional medicine, agriculture and allied sectors, transport and communication, Micro, Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (MSMEs), water resources management, science and technology, skill development and capacity building of cooperation, through the system of lead country for each area. They also agreed to establish the MGC Business Council to further enhance trade cooperation.

Under the MGC Plan of Action 2019-24, Indian Missions in Myanmar and Cambodia organised the Mekong-Ganga Food Festival on 23-24 February and on 22 March, respectively. This vibrant event celebrated the deep-rooted cultural and culinary ties between India and the Mekong region, bringing together diverse flavours, traditions, and shared heritage. The opening ceremony of the food festival in Yangon was attended by officials, including the then Union Minister of the Ministry of Hotels and Tourism of Myanmar U Kyaw Soe Win and other regional leaders. A tour of MGC countries' tour operators to prominent Buddhist sites in Bihar and Uttar Pradesh was successfully organised on 2-10 June.

Under MGC, India implements Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in the CLMV countries: Cambodia, Lao PDR, Myanmar, and Vietnam. Each QIP project has a budget cap of USD 50,000. The primary focus of these projects is to deliver quick, visible results that directly benefit local communities, with a typical completion time of up to one year. QIPs involve the creation or enhancement of physical infrastructure, such as roads and community centers, as well as social infrastructure, including capacity building in sectors like education, health, sanitation, and community development.

Since the MGC's inception in the FY 2015-16, a total of 197 QIP schemes have been initiated with sanctions issued for 170 of these projects. Of these, 137 projects have been successfully completed while 33 are in various stages of implementation. Among the 170 sanctioned QIP schemes, 65 have been allocated to Cambodia, 56 to Vietnam, 34 to Lao PDR, and 15 to Myanmar. During the year, Cambodia has completed 45 of its 65 sanctioned projects; Vietnam has completed all 56 sanctioned projects; Lao PDR has completed 25 of 34; and Myanmar has completed 11 of the 15 QIPs sanctioned to it.

For capacity building, India has been offering 50 MGC scholarships per year since 2005 to students from MGC countries to pursue diploma and degree courses in history and culture, tourism, IT, vocational training, engineering, management, teachers' training, and film direction, among others.

Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy

India joined the Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy (ACMECS) as a Development Partner, alongside Australia, China, Japan, South Korea, and the US. The Joint Development Plan (JDP) between India and ACMECS was adopted at the ACMECS – Development Partners Senior Officers Meeting held in November 2022. The JDP envisages undertaking joint projects in the following focus areas of cooperation under the ACMECS master plan: digital and physical connectivity; capacity building for energy infrastructure; cooperation in MSMEs and HRD; FinTech; sustainable water management; and tourism and health. The ACMECS Master Plan (2019-2023) envisages cooperation based on three pillars: Seamless Connectivity, Synchronised ACMECS Economies, and Smart and Sustainable ACMECS.

Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle

The Indonesia-Malaysia-Thailand Growth Triangle (IMT-GT) sub-regional cooperation was established in 2005 to accelerate and facilitate economic development in the participating countries by

enhancing trade and commerce integration in the sub-region. India joined IMT-GT as its first Development Partner in September 2022.

This year, as part of India's Development Partnership with the IMT-GT, the second project of the five Early Harvest Projects (EHP) was organised. The Ministry's Indo-Pacific Division, in collaboration with the Regional Marine Pollution Response Centre (RMPRC) in Chennai, conducted a 12-day training program on 'Spilled/ leaked oil at the sea investigation and emergency response management' for IMT-GT countries. This training took place from 18-29 August for the countries involved in the IMT-GT initiative.

CHAPTER

11

BIMSTEC & SAARC

BIMSTEC

The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) is a grouping of seven Member States located in the littoral and adjacent areas of the Bay of Bengal. It is a unique link connecting South Asia with South East Asia- five members from South Asia (Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka) and two from South East Asia (Myanmar and Thailand). The BIMSTEC region brings together 1.7 billion people- 22 percent of the world population, with a combined GDP of USD 5 trillion. The organisation came into existence on 6 June 1997 through the 'Bangkok Declaration'.

It was originally formed by four Member States under the acronym 'BIST-EC' (Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka, and Thailand Economic Cooperation). Following Myanmar's inclusion in December 1997, it was renamed 'BIMST-EC' (Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, and Thailand Economic Cooperation). With the inclusion of Nepal and Bhutan in 2004, the grouping's name was changed to BIMSTEC.

BIMSTEC organises inter-governmental interactions through Summits, Ministerial Meetings, Senior Officials Meetings, Permanent Working Committee, Joint Working Groups and Experts-level Meetings.

Five BIMSTEC Summits have been held so far- 2004 (Bangkok), 2008 (New Delhi), 2014 (Nay Pyi Taw), 2018 (Kathmandu) and 2022 (Colombo).

The Prime Minister participated in the sixth BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok on 4 April. Prior to the Summit, the 25th Session of the BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting (SOM) and the 20th Ministerial Meeting (MM) were held on 2 and 3 April, respectively. During the Summit, Prime Minister announced several India-led initiatives towards institution and capacity building in BIMSTEC, including setting up of BIMSTEC Centres of Excellence in India on Disaster Management, Sustainable Maritime Transport, Traditional Medicine and Agriculture, Skill Development Programme– BODHI [BIMSTEC for Organised Development of Human Resource Infrastructure], a pilot study to assess regional needs in Digital Public Infrastructure

and a capacity building programme for cancer care in the region, etc.

Important Meetings

During the year, India hosted a variety of initiatives focused on strengthening people-to-people connect, capacity building, and cultural exchange.

- India hosted the BIMSTEC Youth Summit in Gandhinagar from 7–11 February.
- A BIMSTEC pavilion was put up at the Surajkund Crafts Fair from 7–23 February, hosting artists and artisans from the BIMSTEC Member States.
- India hosted the BIMSTEC Young Leaders' Climate Change Conference in New Delhi from 20-24 February.
- The second Capacity Building Programme on Trade Facilitation was conducted through the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) from 18-29 March in New Delhi.
- The BIMSTEC Energy Centre (BEC) in Bengaluru has been operational since 1 April.
- The fourth BIMSTEC Disaster Management Exercise was hosted by the National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) on 14-15 July.
- The second BIMSTEC Ports Conclave was organised on 14–15 July in Visakhapatnam.
- A Capacity Building Programme in Cancer Care for BIMSTEC countries was organised at the Tata Memorial Centre, Mumbai, from 7-31 July.
- The first BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival was hosted in Kolkata and New Delhi from 31 July to 4 August.
- Under BODHI, a Special Training for Yoga Trainers was organised from 25 August for four weeks.
- The BIMSTEC Young Leaders Summit was hosted in Guwahati, on 9-11 September.
- A training programme for BIMSTEC Young Diplomats was conducted at the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) from 17-22 November.
- The fourth meeting of the BIMSTEC Expert Group on Maritime Security Cooperation was held in New Delhi on 25 November. The Expert Group finalised the texts of the "Draft BIMSTEC Guiding Principles on the Conduct of Maritime Law Enforcement Agencies (MLEAs) during Interaction at Sea", the "Draft BIMSTEC Guidelines for Coordinated Marine Oil Spill Response in the Bay of Bengal" and the "Draft BIMSTEC Guidelines for Maritime Component of HADR."

SAARC

India is a founding member of SAARC. India's SAARC engagement is in line with its 'Neighbourhood First' Policy.

The 60th meeting of the SAARC Programming Committee was held from 28-30 April in Kathmandu. The annual activities of the Regional Centres and Specialised Bodies of SAARC were finalised during the meeting.

India participated in several SAARC meetings at the expert level during the year.

CHAPTER

12

UN & International Organisation

Prime Minister met UN Secretary-General António Guterres on the sidelines of two important multilateral meetings: the AI Action Summit in Paris on 12 February, and the BRICS Summit in Brazil in July.



Prime Minister met with UN Secretary-General Antonio Guetteres on the sidelines of the AI Action Summit in Paris, France, February 2025

The then President of the 79th session of the General Assembly (PGA) Philemon Yang visited India from 4 to 8 February and met Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and EAM during the visit. He also visited several sites of commercial and cultural significance in New Delhi and Bengaluru, including India Stack and Centre for Digital Public Infrastructure.



President of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly Philemon Yang called on Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji at Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, February 2025

80th Session of the UN General Assembly

The UN marked its 80th anniversary this year. UN Secretary-General António Guterres announced the UN80 initiative in March during this commemorative year. The initiative seeks to identify financial efficiencies, review implementation of mandates, and introduce structural changes and programme realignment across the UN system. India supported an ambitious approach to UN80 that focused on reforming the UN to make it fit for purpose by equipping it to respond effectively to contemporary challenges, particularly conflicts. India argued that UN80 needs to go far beyond achieving financial efficiencies alone. In this context, India stressed the need for adequate resources for the developmental agenda and for peacekeeping operations to deliver mandates effectively.

Former Federal Foreign Minister of Germany Annalena Baerbock was elected as President of the 80th session of the UNGA (PGA) on 2 June. Since assuming charge, she has underscored the UN's relevance and centrality in her remarks on all important occasions. Some of the other themes of focus for PGA Baerbock have been improving the UN's efficiency and effectiveness, advancing the gender agenda, and promoting multilingualism. An officer from the Permanent Mission of India to the UN in New York (PMI) has been assigned to the PGA's office.

EAM led the Indian delegation at the high-level week of the 80th Session that was themed 'Better together: 80 years and more for peace, development and human rights.' He delivered India's national statement on 27 September. He outlined India's overall priorities for engagement with the UN, as well as specific areas of focus. Emphasising the need for greater international cooperation within the multilateral framework, he highlighted current gaps in the UN architecture in fulfilling its core functions across diverse domains. EAM made a strong case for UN reforms and underlined India's readiness to assume greater responsibilities in a reformed Security Council. India's leadership of the Global South, with development partnership as an important pillar, was another key theme of the statement. India's growing capabilities in Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), combating piracy, protecting maritime shipping, and other areas were among the highlights EAM noted. He underlined that India's approach to the world is guided by self-reliance (Atmanirbharta), securing oneself (Atmaraksha), and self-confidence (Atmavishwas).

During the high-level week, EAM had wide-ranging engagements in both multilateral and bilateral formats. Multilateral engagements included both regional interactions and thematic engagements. These engagements reinforced India's focus on the Global South, while also attesting to its inclination to further consolidate existing partnerships with the Global North. Expansion and diversification of India's foreign policy were evident in EAM's multilateral engagements. India also convened a High-Level meeting of the Global South. In addition, Foreign Minister level meetings with Community of Latin American and Caribbean States (CELAC) and Central American Integration System (SICA) groupings of Latin America and Pacific Island countries demonstrated India's outreach to different regions of the globe. India also participated in the L-69 and C-10 Joint Ministerial meeting on UNSC reform. The annual G4 meeting at the Foreign Minister level was also held. As the incoming Chair, India organised a BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting. In addition, there were G20 and IBSA meetings at Foreign Minister level. Notably, EAM also interacted with a gathering of all EU Foreign Ministers for the first time in New York on 22 September.

EAM's bilateral interactions with his counterparts included those with the US, Russia, UAE, Algeria, Australia, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Denmark, Italy, Netherlands, Egypt, Philippines, Saudi Arabia, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and the UK, among others.



EAM jointly hosted the India–SICA Foreign Ministers' Meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs of Panama Javier Martinez-Acha Vasquez in New York, September 2025

Two multi-party Parliamentary delegations comprising a total of 27 Members of Parliament (MPs) from India visited New York, the first batch of 12 MPs from 8 to 14 October and the second batch of 15 MPs from 27 to 31 October. The delegation met the senior leadership of the UN, Permanent Representatives and think tanks, among others.

India's participation at the Secretary-level in various high-level events during the week underscored the depth and breadth of India's diverse engagements in the UN. Secretary (Women and Child Development) led the Indian delegation at the commemorative meeting to mark the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action (on gender equality) on 22 September. Secretary (Youth Affairs) led the Indian delegation at the High-Level meeting to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the World Programme of Action for Youth on 25 September. Secretary (Health and Family Welfare) was the leader of the Indian delegation at the fourth High-Level Meeting on Prevention and Control of Non-Communicable Diseases on 25 September. Secretary (Electronics and Information Technology) was also part of the high-level week.

The Ministry in collaboration with the Department of Posts, organised an event named 'Release of UN@80 Commemorative Stamp' on 24 October, which is observed as the UN Day annually. The stamp was selected from more than 7,40,000 designs submitted by artists from schools and art colleges across India, as part of a stamp design competition led by the Ministry and India Post to celebrate 80 years of the UN. The winning stamp was released by EAM, Secretary (West), and Secretary (Posts) in New Delhi on UN Day in the presence of the former UN Resident Coordinator in India Shombi Sharp, government representatives, and diplomats.

Debates and processes

India has been actively engaged in debates, negotiations, and processes within the UN General Assembly. One of the main themes of our efforts has been the reform of the UN Security Council (UNSC). Additionally, development issues have been a key focus area.

Our specific priorities include positioning India as a leading voice for the Global South, enhancing coordination with important groups such as LLDCs (Landlocked Developing Countries), LDCs (Least Developed Countries), and SIDS (Small Island Developing States). We are also leveraging the India-UN Development Partnership Fund and the IBSA Fund and highlighting India's accomplishments in women-led development.

Furthermore, India reaffirmed its commitment to furthering the UN's peace and security functions and responsibilities. This includes emphasising the

global significance of peacekeeping operations and engaging effectively as a Troop Contributing Country in the finalisation of mandates for UN peacekeeping missions.

India also worked towards raising awareness about issues related to counter-terrorism and advancing India's pragmatic and constructive approach to disarmament. Our efforts include active campaigning for elections to UN bodies and increasing the visibility and footprint of the use of Hindi within the UN framework, particularly through the Hindi@UN project.

UN Security Council Reforms

Despite India's Security Council term ending in December 2022, the nature and extent of its participation in the Security Council processes were remarkable. In the backdrop of the conflict in Gaza, which has been gaining considerable attention in the Council, India advocated diplomacy and dialogue as the best means to resolve it. India also reiterated its consistent position and reaffirmed its unwavering support for the Palestinian people, while calling for a two-state solution. Thematic issues, particularly those related to peace and security, were another important area in which India made its positions known. India's engagement with the Council was primarily two-pronged: through inclusive formats such as open debates and direct outreach to the UNSC members to further issues of interest to India.



EAM joined the G4 Foreign Ministers' Meeting along with his counterparts from Japan, Germany, and Brazil in New York, September 2025

India also continued to push for reformed multilateralism, particularly UNSC reforms through proactive engagement, including in the Inter-governmental Negotiations (IGN) process. India's outreach and coordination with reform-oriented groupings such as the G4, L-69, and C-10 continued in 2025. During EAM's L-69 & C-10 and G4 Ministerial meetings in New York in September, the Ministers underscored the urgent need for reforming the Council. Expansion of both permanent and non-permanent categories, early commencement of text-based negotiations, clearly defined timelines and milestones were highlighted by EAM in these meetings.

International Day of Yoga

The 11th International Day of Yoga, themed 'Yoga for Earth, One Health', was celebrated at the UN Headquarters on 20 June. Noted physician Deepak Chopra conducted a meditation session during the celebration, attended by over 1200 yoga enthusiasts, including Permanent Representatives and delegates from UN Member States, senior UN officials, members of various yoga organisations, and representatives of the Indian diaspora.

Non-Aligned Movement

As a founding member of the Non-Aligned Movement (NAM), India has remained actively engaged in the NAM. MoS (KVS) represented India at the NAM Summit in Kampala on 15-16 October.

Peacekeeping

In peacekeeping, India remains cumulatively the largest Troop/Police Contributing Country (T/PCC) with about 3,00,000 personnel deployed since 1950. 183 Indian Peacekeepers have made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty. Presently, India has 4267 peacekeepers, including 158 women, deployed in nine of the 11 existing UN peacekeeping missions. India's three largest contingents are in UNMISS - South Sudan 1811, MONUSCO-DRC 1039, and UNIFIL – Lebanon 643.

In 2025, India lost two UN Peacekeepers: MONUSCO Havildar Sanjay Singh and UNMISS Subedar Sujit Kumar Pradhan.

India co-hosted the International Day of UN Peacekeepers on 29 May with Austria. The Group of Friends on Accountability for Crimes against UN Peacekeepers held its third Ambassadorial-Level Meeting on 15 July. Representatives from around 40 countries attended the meeting. It may be recalled that the Group was launched by India along with five other countries on 15 December 2022 to promote accountability for crimes against peacekeepers.

India has always supported greater participation of women in peacekeeping, aligning with the Action for Peacekeeping. India was also the first country to deploy an all-women Formed Police Unit to a peacekeeping mission, the UN Mission in Liberia (UNMIL), from 2007 to 2016. An all-women Female Engagement Team (FET) with women soldiers of the Indian Army has been deployed in MONUSCO, UNISFA, and UNMISS.

India's commitment was reinforced in the Conference for Women Peacekeepers from the Global South on 'Enhancing the Role of Women in Peacekeeping' which was conducted in New Delhi in February, wherein women peacekeepers from 35 partner countries from the Global South including 17 from the African Continent came together to discuss peacekeeping challenges, highlighting the crucial role of women, and promote gender balance. India also conducted a United Nations Women Military officers' course in August, in which 15 countries participated.

The Conclave of Army Chiefs of UN Troop Contributing Countries (TCCs) was held in New Delhi, India, from 14 to 16 October. The Conclave brought together senior military leaders from over 30 nations and high-level UN representation. It established a shared and nuanced understanding of evolving operational challenges such as cyber risks and asymmetric warfare. Key outcomes focused on leveraging technology, with demonstrations and discussions driving consensus on the greater use of technology as a force multiplier for mission effectiveness.

India professes and offers niche capabilities which meet the extant and future requirements of peacekeeping. Its offers include Quick Deployment Units, Specialised Units and renewable energy assets. Indian contingents saw a significant enhancement in operational mobility and mandate execution capabilities following the deployment of indigenously manufactured All-Terrain Vehicles (Heavy) in UNMISS. The mission's extensive utilisation of the inducted ATVs for mandate enforcement tasks has been met with appreciation and positive feedback from relevant stakeholders.

Furthermore, 7 Madras Infantry Battalion Group (INDBATT-XXV) serving with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) from May 2024 to July 2025 received a letter of appreciation from the UN Under-Secretary-General for Peace Operations Jean-Pierre Lacroix.

The Indian Battalion-II (22 Maratha Li Inf Group) serving with the United Nations Mission in the Republic of South Sudan (UNMISS) was honoured by Jonglei State, South Sudan. The Governor of Jonglei State Riek Gai Kok Diang presented the Certificate of Appreciation to the Battalion for going above and beyond to demonstrate profound commitment to humanitarian work.

The objective of Training of Trainers (ToT) on United Nations Pre-Deployment Training (UNPDT) is to prepare officers for the effective execution of their tasks as part of Military Contingents and to equip them to train their units/troops in UN peacekeeping techniques. Later in the year, UNPDT-04 was organised by the Ministry in partnership with CUNPK at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi in December. The course was attended by 15 Foreign Participants and 10 Indian Participants. The valedictory address was delivered by Secretary (West), who also handed over certificates to the course participants.

Peacebuilding

As one of the top five TCCs, India has been a member of the Peacebuilding Commission since its inception. This year, India actively participated in the meetings of the Peacebuilding Commission (PBC) in the discharge of its advisory and bridging roles, including in the ongoing negotiations on the 2025 Peacebuilding Architecture Review (PBAR). In this context, India

emphasised that national prevention strategies should remain voluntary. India underlined the need for a greater role for UN Resident Coordinators to strengthen coherence across UN entities in the field. It highlighted the significance of Women, Peace and Security (WPS) and Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agendas in peacebuilding. As the voice of the Global South, India upholds the cardinal principle of national ownership and leadership in peacebuilding efforts, including in the financing of the projects funded through the Peacebuilding Fund. India welcomed USD 50 million in assessed contributions from different stakeholders to the Peacebuilding Fund. Secretary (West) participated in a ministerial-level meeting on the PBC during the High-Level Week and articulated India's position.

Counter Terrorism

One of India's top priorities at the UN is counter-terrorism (CT), where it advocates comprehensive multilateral action to counter terrorism, capacity-building support to member states, effective implementation of UN CT-related sanctions, and strengthening collective action against terrorism.

To show the impact of terrorism on people, India organised a digital exhibition titled 'The Human Cost of Terrorism' at the UN from June to July. EAM inaugurated the exhibition on 30 June. The exhibition shed light on the profound impact of terrorism on individuals, families, and communities worldwide through a curated selection of photographs, multimedia presentations, and testimonial displays. It also highlighted a diverse range of national and international efforts to prevent and counter terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, underscoring the achievements and ongoing challenges in the global counter-terrorism landscape.

India actively supported the capacity-building efforts of the UN Office of Counter-Terrorism (UNOCT) and has supported a call for greater autonomy for the Office. India also emphasised greater synergies between UNOCT agencies and international forums such as the Financial Action Task Force (FATF), to promote and implement terror financing standards, counter the use of new and emerging technologies for terrorist purposes and advocate for 'right to justice' for victims of cross-border terrorism, among others. In May, an interaction with the Monitoring Team of the UNSCR 1267/1988 Sanctions Committee was held, along with meetings with key functionaries in the UN CT architecture.

Fourth Committee on Special Political and Decolonisation

In the Fourth Committee, India continued to be a leading voice in the fight against colonisation. India strongly advocated a pragmatic approach to decolonisation that would fulfil the legitimate wishes of the people of 17 Non-Self-Governing Territories. India has consistently emphasised that national ownership is critical to all political solutions in the debate over Special Political Missions.

Committee on Information

The 47th session of the Committee on Information was held from 28 April to 9 May. India underscored its commitment to ensuring safe, transparent and reliable digital interactions for its citizens and bridging digital divides. India called for enhanced global outreach in languages beyond the official UN languages, advocating collaboration with the Department of Global Communication (DGC) to develop a model consolidating news and multimedia content on the UN News portal and on social media in Hindi. India appreciated the UN's support in commemorating the International Day of Yoga, which has fostered global awareness of this ancient tradition.

Hindi in the United Nations

Vishwa Hindi Diwas 2025 was commemorated on 13 February in the presence of MoS (Women and Child Development). There was active participation in the Hindi competitions held in the run-up to the special occasion. Later in the year, Hindi Diwas was organised at the UN on 8 October. The delegation of MPs from India attended the event, which also featured Permanent Representatives and other diplomats from over 25 countries, senior UN officials, academics, and

members of the diaspora. Members of Parliament felicitated the winners of various competitions that were held in the run-up to the event.

The MoU on Hindi@UN Project was renewed on 26 February and is now valid until March 2030. As per the MoU, India makes a voluntary contribution of approximately USD 1.4 million annually to keep the Hindi@UN project operational, ensuring that UN news in Hindi is telecast regularly.

To strengthen the contribution of non-official languages in the UN, and in view of the forthcoming Multilingualism Resolution (negotiations will begin in 2026), India joined the Group of Friends on Multilingualism on 24 September. This is part of India's continued endeavour to promote the usage of Hindi as a non-official language in the UN.

Financial Contributions

India contributes in full and on time to the regular budget as a member of the United Nations, reflecting its strong commitment to multilateralism. As in the previous years, India paid its assessed contribution in full and featured in the 2025 'Honour Roll' of the UN.

Human Rights, Humanitarian and Social matters

The Third Committee of the UN commenced its work during the 80th session on 3 October and continued until 21 November. The committee considered over 60 thematic resolutions, held interactive dialogues with over 80 special mandate holders and discussed issues related to social and cultural spheres and the promotion and protection of human rights.

The Minister of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) led the Indian delegation to the Commission on the Status of Women held from 10-21 March. During the general discussion, the Minister (MoWCD) outlined India's institutional framework for gender equality, including gender budgeting and the decision to reserve one-third of seats in national and state legislatures for women. The outline also underscored the increasing presence of Indian women across diverse sectors, including STEM, the military, and aviation.

MoS (MoWCD) led the Indian delegation to the Commission on Social Development, held on 10-14 February. During the Commission's general discussion, MoS described India's efforts and remarkable strides in tackling multidimensional poverty, malnutrition, and universal healthcare, while pioneering digital public infrastructure for sustainable development. MoS also outlined India's focus on financial inclusion through the JAM (Jan Dhan-Aadhaar-Mobile) initiative, with a targeted focus on women and persons with disabilities, a vision of women-led development, and efforts in early childhood care, nutrition, and education.

Two events were also organised on the sidelines of the Commission, in partnership with UN Women and the Alliance for Global Good. The former was a roundtable to address two topical themes for accelerating women's empowerment: digital and financial inclusion for women's empowerment, and financing for women's empowerment, and the criticality of core resources, while the latter was on women's participation and leadership as key drivers for economic growth and equality.

At the 58th Session of the Commission on Population and Development (CPD58), held from 7 to 11 April, India outlined its multi-pronged approach to ensure healthy lives and promote well-being. During the Commission, India co-sponsored the side event organised by the Netherlands, Benin and the UN Youth Office on the theme 'Inter-generational Dialogue: Ensuring Healthy Lives – Bridging Generations of Action.'

India is a State Party to the Committee of States Parties to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CoSP to CRPD) and attended the 18th session of the Conference of State Parties to the Convention held on 10-12 June. India's national statement outlined its comprehensive approach to empowering people with disabilities. India held a side event to showcase the work of the Bhagwan Mahaveer Viklang Sahayta Samiti (BMVSS) and highlight the contribution of the iconic 'Jaipur Foot',

which revolutionised affordable, durable prosthetic feet and made them available to millions in the developing world.

The political declaration adopted at the Second World Summit on Social Development was negotiated and finalised in New York. The Summit was held in Doha from 4 to 6 November. India negotiated the text through the G-77, as the priorities of the Global South align with social development issues. India was able to reflect many national priorities in the text. The reference to women-led development is an Indian concept reflected in the UN document for the first time.

India, as an Executive Board member of UNDP/ UNFPA/UNOPS, UNICEF, and UN Women, actively participated in the annual and regular sessions.

Legal matters at UNGA

During the 80th and 81st sessions of the Sixth Committee, India actively participated in debates on agenda items such as measures to Eliminate international terrorism, the rule of law at national and international levels, Criminal accountability of UN officials and experts on mission, Protection of persons in the event of disasters, Special Committee on Charter, Universal Jurisdiction and Report of UNCITRAL.

During the year, the Indian delegation to the third UN Ocean Conference in Nice, France was headed by MoS (Earth Sciences). India also participated in the annual session of the Special Committee on the UN Charter and the Strengthening of the Organisation, held from 18 to 26 February. India also participated in the State Parties Meeting of the UNCLOS in June.

An Indian delegation, headed by the Surveyor General of India and comprising representatives from the Department of Science and Technology, participated in the Group of Experts on Geographical Names and the Group of Experts on Geospatial Information Management (GGIM) during October.

Economic and Social issues

The Economic and Finance Committee (Second Committee) began its general debate and discussions at the 80th session on 6 October, building on the outcomes of the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development (FFD4), held from 30 June to 3 July in Seville, Spain, which the Minister of Finance attended. FFD4 was crucial for bridging the USD 4 trillion annual SDG financing gap and reaffirming solidarity with developing countries through equitable and inclusive growth. Building on the conference, the Committee considered over 35 resolutions on various agenda items, including macroeconomic policy, sustainable development, and poverty eradication.

In the general debate of the Committee, India highlighted its suggestions on multilateral solutions for sustainable development over the next five years to 2030. These include empowering women and youth, deploying digital technology, fostering South-South cooperation, and focusing on climate action in a wider context of urgency, ambition, solidarity and resource provision.

HLPF on Sustainable Development

The Vice-Chairman of NITI Aayog represented India at the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) in July. This HLPF was special for India since it presented its third Voluntary National Review (VNR) alongside 34 other countries. The VNR highlighted the country's progress and resilience since 2020, a period marked by multiple global crises, including the COVID-19 pandemic. It outlined India's achievements in Covid-19 and Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, which promise food security for 800 million people. This VNR was prepared through participatory discussions with all stakeholders, including vulnerable sections of society. A side event titled 'SDGs: Keeping the Moment for Agenda 2030' was organised on the sidelines of HLPF to highlight India's experience with SDG localisation. India also participated in the decennial Third UN Conference on Landlocked Developing Countries (LLDC3) from 5 to 8 August.

India-UNDP and IBSA Fund

The India-UN Development Partnership Fund was established in 2017 with a USD 150 million budget. The Fund operates under General and Commonwealth Windows and caters to SIDS, LDC and LLDC. The Fund provides end-to-end support, helping the host government identify a sectoral need after which the UN provides assistance in project formulation and implementation, guided by the priorities and approaches of the requesting Government. Projects undertaken under the Fund cover diverse areas, including health, education, livelihood development, agriculture, etc. So far, the Fund has supported 89 projects in 67 countries with a budgeted outlay of USD 89 million. The eighth anniversary of the establishment of the Fund was commemorated at the UN on 30 October. The annual event was attended by a 13-member MP delegation from India, apart from senior UN officials.

The India, Brazil, South Africa (IBSA) Fund, which caters to the Global South, was established in 2004 and became fully operational in 2006. It has supported 48 projects in 38 countries at a total allocation of USD 52 million to date. India assumed the Fund's Chairmanship in 2025. Foreign Ministers of the three countries met on the sidelines of High-Level Week on 26 September in New York and took stock of the activities of the Fund.

United Nations Convention on the Laws of the Sea

In the wake of the adoption of the BBNJ Agreement in 2023, India participated constructively in the second session of the PrepCom (18-29 August) at the UN Headquarters in New York, focusing on the operationalisation of key governance mechanisms. These financial and technical mechanisms will underpin the treaty's implementation. The Indian delegation emphasised the importance of ensuring equitable participation, capacity-building and technology transfer for developing States, and safeguarding the principle of the common heritage of humankind while facilitating sustainable use of marine biological diversity beyond national jurisdiction.

In line with India's consistent position, it stressed that financial rules and the design of subsidiary bodies must reflect the special needs and circumstances of developing coastal States, and that the Clearing-House Mechanism and benefit-sharing arrangements are structured to support meaningful inclusion and transparency. India reaffirmed its commitment to ratification and to actively contributing to the preparatory work of the first Conference of the Parties, thereby reinforcing its role as a responsible maritime State in the Indo-Pacific region and its support for multilateral ocean governance.

International Day of Non-Violence

International Day of Non-Violence was commemorated in the UN on 2 October. The event witnessed participation of Permanent Representatives, senior UN officials, and members of the Indian community.

International Labour Organisation

The Director General of the ILO visited India from 23 to 24 February to participate in the regional conference under Global Coalition for Social Justice in New Delhi.

The 113th Session of the International Labour Conference (113 ILC) was held in Geneva on 3-14 June. The Indian tripartite delegation comprising representatives from Workers, Employers and the Government, was led by the Minister of Labour and Employment. The Minister addressed the 113 ILC Plenary and participated in discussions of the Global Coalition for Social Justice, a flagship initiative of the ILO Director-General. The Minister met the ILO Director-General and senior ILO officials, and held bilateral meetings with Iran, Brazil, South Africa, Germany, the US, and Switzerland on the sidelines of the 113 ILC.

A side event focusing on India's digital labour mobility initiatives was organised during 113th ILC at the Permanent Mission of India. During the event, the

Minister of Labour and Employment underlined India's readiness to share digital initiatives such as e-shram and E2E (Education to Employment) with the Global South. This event saw participation of Labour Ministers from Sri Lanka, Armenia, Rwanda and Kenya.

In March, Secretary (Labour and Employment) led the Indian delegation to the 353rd session of ILO Governing Body at ILO Headquarters, Geneva from 10 to 20 March. Later, the Secretary participated in the 355th Session of ILO Governing Body at ILO Headquarters, Geneva on 17-27 November.

On 16 September, India signed an MoU with ILO to conduct a feasibility study on the International Reference Framework for the classification of occupations, a major outcome of the Employment Working Group under India's G20 Presidency. The two-year study will focus on the development of a standardised taxonomy and on informing policies on recruitment, migration, education, and career guidance in the green, digital, and care economies.

International Maritime Organisation

The Secretary General of the IMO Arsenio Domínguez visited India from 19-21 February, where he visited the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA), participated in the Green Shipping Conclave in Mumbai, and met the Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways. The Secretary-General also met Secretary (West) in Delhi.

A significant development during the year was discussion of reducing Green House Gases (GHG) emissions from international shipping under the IMO GHG Strategy. India remained actively involved in the discussions on the establishment of market-based mechanisms in this regard, during the Marine Environment Protection Committee (MEPC) meeting from 7-11 April.

A delegation led by Secretary (MoPSW) accompanied by DG Shipping, participated in the 132nd session of the IMO Council held at the IMO Headquarters in London from 7-11 July. Being an election year at IMO, the High Commission of India in London, in coordination with the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, organised a networking reception at the IMO headquarters to promote India's candidature for the IMO Council. The elections were held during the 34th IMO Assembly from 24 November to 3 December.

International Seabed Authority

As a State party to UNCLOS 1984, India is a member state of the International Seabed Authority (ISA). It is represented in the Council of the Authority as a member of Group B and as a country that has made the largest investments in preparation for and the conduct of activities in the Seabed (Area), either directly or through its nationals. India is also represented on the Finance Committee and the Legal and Technical Committee (LTC) of the Authority.

The Secretary General of ISA Letica Reis de Carvalho visited India from 14-20 September, during which she signed, on behalf of ISA, the second Polymetallic sulphides exploration contract with India at the Carlsberg Ridge in the Indian Ocean. This contract made India the first ISA Member State to hold two Polymetallic Sulphides (PMS) exploration contracts and to have the largest area allocated by the Authority. In commemoration of ISA's 30th Anniversary, the eighth Annual Contractors Meeting of ISA was hosted by India, and the Secretary General attended and addressed the gathering.

India actively participated in the ISA Council session (17–28 March) and the Assembly session (21–25 July) in Kingston, Jamaica, represented by delegations from Permanent Mission of India to ISA in Kingston, Ministry of Earth Sciences and Ministry of Mines. At the Assembly Session in July, India was re-elected to the ISA Finance Committee, reflecting trust in its commitment to institutional governance. India also participated in the Special 30th Anniversary High-Level Commemoration of the ISA where it reaffirmed its commitment to UNCLOS, the principle of the Common Heritage of Humankind, multilateralism, and responsible deep-sea governance.

International Organisation of Migration

Additional Secretary (EP&W) participated in the 15th Global Forum for Migration and Development on 2-4 September in Riohacha, Colombia.

India participated actively in the 116th Session of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) Council in Geneva (8-10 December), highlighting migration's role in development and emphasising safe, orderly, and regular migration pathways, with the Ministry delivering a statement stressing alignment between development and migration policies for smart outcomes. The session, titled 'Aligning Development Policy for Smarter Migration Outcomes", featured discussions on IOM's strategic direction and the importance of global frameworks such as the Global Compact for Migration.

UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction

The Principal Secretary to Prime Minister led a delegation of senior officials from Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) to participate in the eighth Session of the Global Platform for Disaster Risk Reduction from 2-6 June. On the sidelines of the Global Platform, the Permanent Mission of India organised a High-Level UNDRR-BIMSTEC event titled 'Accelerating Sendai Framework Implementation in BIMSTEC Countries' on 5 June.

World Meteorological Organisation

Secretary-General of the World Meteorological Organisation (WMO) Celeste Saulo visited India in January, where she joined the Prime Minister and other dignitaries at the 150th anniversary celebrations of the Indian Meteorological Department (IMD).

The Director-General (DG) of IMD received the prestigious UN Sasakawa Award 2025 for Disaster Risk Reduction on the sidelines of the Global Platform 2025 in June.

The DG of IMD led a delegation that attended the WMO Extraordinary Session of Congress and Executive Council held from 20-24 October.

UNEP

An Indian delegation led by MoS (KVS) attended the seventh session of the United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-7), held from 8-12 December at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON). MoS (KVS) met Cabinet Secretary for Environment of Kenya Deborah Mlongo Barasa, Norwegian delegation led by Minister of Climate and Environment of Norway Andreas Bjelland Eriksen, and Deputy Minister of Natural Resources and Environment of the Russia Dmitri Tetenkin. UNEA-7 adopted India's resolution titled 'Strengthening the Global Response to the Management of Wildfires' along with 10 other resolutions. Furthermore, the Indian delegation participated in the 37th Meeting of the Parties (MOP) to the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer, including the high-level segment, held in the UN Office at Nairobi from 3-7 November.

Ramsar Convention

The 16th Conference of Parties to Ramsar Convention (COP16) was held in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe. The Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change led the Indian delegation and India's resolution of 'Promoting Sustainable Lifestyles for the Wise Use of Wetlands' was adopted at COP16.

At the 64th meeting of the Standing Committee of the Ramsar Convention in Gland from 20-24 January, for the first time, two Indian cities, Udaipur and Indore, were recognised as Ramsar wetland-accredited cities. The number of Ramsar Sites designated in India has increased to 93.

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora

A delegation led by Director General (Forests) participated in the 68th session of the Standing Committee in Geneva in February. Later in the year,

India will participate in the 20th Conference of the Parties (CoP20) to the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES), scheduled to be held from 24 November to 5 December in Samarkand, Uzbekistan.

Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Convention

The Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) participated in the high-level segment of the 17th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and the 12th meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the Stockholm Convention in Geneva on 30 April and 1 May.

An inter-ministerial delegation led by Additional Secretary (MoEFCC), along with representatives from the Ministry of Agriculture, Department of Chemicals, and Central Pollution Control Board, participated in the negotiations of the Conference of Parties to Basel, Stockholm and Rotterdam Conventions.

Second part of fifth session of Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Treaty (INC 5.2)

The resumed fifth session of the Intergovernmental Committee on Plastic Treaty was held in Geneva on 2-14 August. An inter-ministerial delegation comprising MoEFCC (lead), Department of Economic Affairs, Department of Chemicals and Department of Commerce participated in the negotiations.

Minamata Convention

The sixth Conference of the Parties to Minamata Convention was held from 3 to 7 November. An inter-ministerial delegation comprising of the Ministry of Environment, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, and Department of Chemicals participated in the negotiations.

Bonn Climate Conference

The 62nd Session of the Subsidiary Bodies (SB62) was held in Bonn, Germany, from 3 to 13 June. The meeting discussed key issues, including climate finance, adaptation, and the global stocktake. India took part in all major discussions and highlighted the importance of equity, climate justice, and support for developing countries. The outcomes of SB62 will help prepare for the decisions to be taken at COP30.

COP30

The 30th Conference of the Parties (COP30) was held in Belém, Brazil on 10-21 November. India's delegation was led by the MoS (KVS). The COP30 focused on several issues, including adaptation, modalities of the global stocktake on the just transition work programme, Baku to Belem Roadmap, gender action plan, technology implementation programme and response measures. India continued to call for fair and balanced outcomes, with a focus on increasing means of implementation for developing countries.

UN-Habitat

India attended the second session of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Working Group on Adequate Housing for All, held from 22-23 October at the United Nations Office at Nairobi (UNON).

Elections

India's performance in elections at the UN and related international organisations is listed below:

(i) India got elected to the Governing Council of Asian and Pacific Centre for the Development of Disaster Information Management (APDIM) for the term 2025-27.

(ii) India got elected to the Asian and Pacific Training Centre for Information and Communication Technology for Development (APCICT) for the term 2025-27.

(iii) India got elected to the Governing Council of Statistical Institute for Asia and the Pacific (SIAP) for the term 2025-27.

(iv) India got elected to the Governing Council of Centre for Sustainable Agricultural Mechanisation (CSAM) for the term 2025-27.

(v) India got elected to the Ex. Council of Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) for the term 2025-27.

(vi) India got elected as the Vice Chairman of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission IOC's Subcommittee on Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO) for the term 2025-27.

(vii) India got elected as a member of ECOSOC (Economic and Social Council) for the term 2026-28.

(viii) India got elected as a member of the Postal Operations Council (POC) of UPU for the term 2026-29.

(ix) India got elected as a member of the Council of Administration (CA) of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) for the term 2026-29.

(x) India was re-elected to Part II of the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO) Council for the term 2025–2028.

(xi) India got elected as a member to the Asia Pacific Committee of INTERPOL for the term 2025-28.

(xii) India got elected as co-chair (with the Republic of Korea) of UN-Global Geospatial Information Management for Asia-Pacific (UNGGIM-AP) for the term 2025-28.

(xiii) India got elected as Vice Chair of COP-10 of UNESCO (Convention on Anti-Doping) for the term 2026-27.

(xiv) India was also elected to UNESCO Executive Board 2026-2028, Intergovernmental Hydrological Programme (IGC-IHP) for 2027-2030 and UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) for the term 2027-30 during the 43rd General Conference of UNESCO in Samarkand.

UN Human Rights Council

India continued its engagement and participation in Human Rights Council (HRC) Sessions held in 2025, and in related human rights mechanisms and processes. This includes the 58th (24 February – 4 April), 59th (16 June – 9 July), and 60th (8 September – 8 October) sessions of the Human Rights Council, and 37th Special session of the Council on deteriorating human rights situation in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC). India also participated in the 48th and 49th sessions of the Working Group on the Universal Periodic Review (WG UPR) (20-31 January and 28 April - 9 May) and other inter-sessional meetings organised under the Council's mandate. During the UPR working groups, India engaged constructively with countries under review and made recommendations on human rights issues.

After two consecutive terms as a member of the Human Rights Council, India took a break from council membership and participated as an observer. As an observer at the Council, India continued to underscore its commitment to the Right to Development, technical assistance, and capacity-building cooperation among UN Member States. It actively engaged in interactive debates, negotiations on human rights-related resolutions, and other formal and informal activities during the session.

During the 59th session, India was a member of the core group of the resolution on 'Access to Medicines', which was passed by consensus. India also co-sponsored annual HRC Resolutions on the Right to Development and human rights, and on unilateral coercive measures, as part of the group of Non-Aligned Movement countries. India also joined joint statements by groups of countries at the HRC Sessions, including on various thematic issues of importance, such as health, women and children, education, etc.

The Permanent Mission of India organised side events on India's perspectives on Human rights during the 58th HRC session on 13 March, which saw the participation of Chairman of the National Human Rights Commission, and on Gender Equality and the Right to Development during the 60th session of the HRC on 12 September, along with the Special Rapporteur on the Right to Development. The events were well received and attracted participation from delegations of several member States.

India also co-sponsored the Portugal led resolution titled 'Question of the realization in all countries

of economic, social and cultural rights' during the 58th session in March; Resolution on 'Civil Society Space' during the 59th session in June, and resolution titled 'Promoting and protecting economic, social and cultural rights within the context of addressing inequalities' in the 60th session in October.

India was elected to the Human Rights Council for the 2026-28 term. It has always been on the Council except for mandatory breaks, reflecting India's unwavering commitment to human rights and fundamental freedoms.

UNAIDS

The Programme Coordinating Board (PCB) of UNAIDS is the governing body responsible for setting policies and priorities, and overseeing the budget, for the global response to HIV/AIDS. India has been an active partner in UNAIDS, contributing to global efforts through its successful national HIV/AIDS programmes. In December, India was elected as a member of the UNAIDS PCB for the term 2026–2028.

World Health Organisation

In a landmark decision, the World Health Organisation (WHO) member States adopted the Pandemic Treaty during the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA 78). India played a constructive role in the drafting of the Treaty, especially regarding provisions for operationalisation of an equitable response to pandemic emergencies.

Secretary (MoHFW) led a delegation in the 78th World Health Assembly (WHA 78) in Geneva on 20-28 May. At WHA78, India was conferred the Certificate of Elimination of Trachoma as a Public Health Problem by the Director-General (DG) of the WHO Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus.

India organised two side-events on the sidelines of the WHA78, one on Universal Health Coverage on 20 May with Secretary (MoHFW) and Health Ministers of Malaysia, Bahamas, Zanzibar (Tanzania) participating as speakers, and another on Traditional Medicine on 23 May which had speakers from WHO, WHO Global Traditional Medicine Centre (GTMC), Ministry of Ayush, Ministry of Health of Sri Lanka, Malaysia, and Bolivia.

This year, WHO member states also adopted the WHO Traditional Medicine Strategy for the period 2025-2034. India collaborated with WHO to advance the Global Traditional Medicine Agenda. India and WHO signed an MoU to develop a Traditional Medicine module under the International Classification of Health Interventions (ICHI) on 24 May.

This year, India also hosted the WHO–IRCH (International Regulatory Cooperation for Herbal Medicines) Workshop on Herbal Medicine Safety and Regulations from 6-8 August.

India hosted the second WHO Global Summit on Traditional Medicine in New Delhi from 17–19 December, reinforcing our leadership in evidence-based traditional, complementary and integrative medicine (TCIM). Anchored by the Ministry of AYUSH, the summit's theme, 'Restoring Balance for People and Planet', aligned with the World Health Organisation's Traditional Medicine Strategy 2025–2034. A major outcome was the launch of the WHO Traditional Medicine Global Library, a 1.5-million-record digital repository. India's extensive AYUSH ecosystem was showcased alongside policies that integrate AYUSH into public health, strengthen regulation, research, digitisation, and quality assurance, and advance global confidence, access, and sustainability in traditional medicine.

India actively participated in the meetings of the Intergovernmental Working Group (IGWG), which is negotiating the Annexure to the WHO Pandemic Agreement on Pathogen Access and Benefit Sharing. India has been voicing the concerns and priorities of the Global South, especially regarding equity provisions in the meeting. The two IGWG meetings were held on 9-10 July (IGWG1) and 6-10 October (IGWG2).

International Telecommunication Union

Building on the successful hosting of the World Telecommunication Standardisation Assembly 2024 (WTSA-24) at New Delhi on 15-24 October 2024, India continued its steady engagement with International Telecommunication Union (ITU).

This year, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) signed two Letters of Intent (LoIs) with the ITU, focusing on advancing AI-driven digital twin technologies and a PhD-level research partnership in February. India also hosted the third ITU-T Focus Group meeting on Artificial Intelligence Native for Telecommunication Networks (FG-AINN) in New Delhi from 11-13 June, with participation from Indian and international experts. This Focus Group addressed the changes needed in network architecture to harness the potential of AI fully.

As a Member of ITU Council, India actively participated in ITU Council 2025 held on 17-27 July in Geneva. India also presented its proposal to host the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2030. In October, DoT and ITU jointly organised 'AI for Good – Impact India Conference 2025' and 'Robotics for Good Youth Challenge India 2025', during the India Mobile Congress 2025 held in New Delhi. Lastly, India presented its candidate for the post of Director of the ITU Radio-communication Bureau (2027–2030), for which elections will be held during the ITU Plenipotentiary Conference in 2026 in Doha.

UN Tourism

India was nominated as a member of the UN Tourism Executive Board for the period 2025-2029 during the 60th meeting of the UN Tourism Commission for South Asia held in Jakarta in April. India is currently a member of the UN Tourism Executive Council for the period 2021-2025 and has proposed its candidature to the Council at the UN Tourism General Assembly meeting scheduled for November 2025 in Saudi Arabia. India has been actively contributing to UN Tourism not only as a member of the Executive Council but also as a member of the Program and Budget Committee and Committee on Affiliate Membership. In the 60th meeting of the UN Tourism Commission for South Asia, India was also renominated as Vice Chair of the Commission.

India participated in the 123rd Executive Council Session of UN Tourism held in Spain from 29-30 May. The Council reviewed the work for the preceding year and established its programme of work for the next year. The Council has nominated the new Secretary General and examined UN Tourism's financial requirements for 2026-27. India renewed its commitment to UN Tourism in fulfilling its mandate and reiterated its commitment to safe and sustainable tourism and building resilience in the tourism sector.

International Committee of the Red Cross

PMI attended the first State consultation of Workstream on the theme 'Upholding International Humanitarian Law in the Use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) during Armed Conflict' under the Global Initiative to Galvanise Political Commitment to International Humanitarian Law (Global Initiative), held on 15 May. The ICT Workstream aims to foster shared understanding of the limits that IHL imposes on the use of ICTs during armed conflict, with the overarching goal of protecting civilian populations from harm.

UN High Commissioner for Refugees

India participated in the 76th annual session of the Executive Committee (ExCom) of UNHCR in Geneva on 6-10 October. India renewed its commitment to UNHCR in fulfilling its mandate. It reiterated the view that the safe, speedy, and sustainable return of displaced persons and refugees to their homes is the best long-term solution to address refugee influxes.

UN Institute for Training and Research

The arrangement between the Ministry of Defence and UNITAR concerning the assignment of experts was signed by both parties in September. Under this arrangement, at UNITAR's request, India has seconded a senior officer from the Indian Air Force as the Team Leader, Military Pillar, at UNITAR.

Universal Postal Union

Secretary (Posts) visited Switzerland in February to attend the meetings of UPU's Council of Administration and Postal Operations Council. Later in the year, India won candidacies to the Postal Operations Council and the Council of Administration for the term 2026-29 during elections held on the sidelines of the UPU Congress in Dubai on 18 August.

UNECE

Though India is not a member of United Nations Economic Commission for Europe (UNECE), it is a party to the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975) under UNECE. A delegation led by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways participated in 91st Session of WP-1 Global Forum for Road Traffic Safety meeting from 15-19 September and in 130th Session of Working Party on General Safety (GRSG) on 6-9 October both in Geneva.

An Indian delegation led by the Joint Secretary (CBIC) participated in the Working Party meeting as part of the Customs Convention on the International Transport of Goods under Cover of TIR Carnets (TIR Convention, 1975). India moved a resolution to disclose the votes for election of TIR Executive Board, and it was adopted.

UNESCAP

The Vice Chairman of NITI Aayog chaired the 12th Asia-Pacific Forum on Sustainable Development (APFSD) held from 25-28 February at the United Nations Conference Centre, Bangkok for deliberations on accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

The 81st Commission Session of UNESCAP (81CS) was held from 21-25 April at UN Conference Centre, Bangkok, on the theme 'Regional cooperation for resilient and sustainable urban development in Asia and the Pacific.' A side-event was also organised on 25 April during the 81CS in association with Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Ministry of Earth Sciences and UNESCO-Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (UNESCO-IOC) on the topic 'Resilient Coasts: Enhancing Disaster Preparedness through Regional Collaboration' at UNCC. India announced a USD 500,000 contribution to the Trust Fund for Tsunami, Disaster, and Climate Preparedness as a one-time grant.

During the 81CS, elections were held for Governing Councils of four Regional Institutions of UNESCAP (APCICT, APDIM, CSAM, SIAP), in which India received highest number of votes amongst all contestants in each of the four institutions and was declared elected to membership of the Governing Councils.

UNESCO

The Permanent Delegation of India to UNESCO actively pursued India's interests at UNESCO. India's commitment to education and cultural preservation, aligning with UNESCO's values, was highlighted.

Key highlights of the year 2025 are as follows:

1. **Hosting of the 20th Session of the Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH/20.COM), New Delhi:** For the first time since the adoption of the 2003 Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH), India hosted the 20th session of the Intergovernmental Committee in New Delhi from 8 to 13 December. This historic

event brought together around 800-1200 delegates from 180 States Parties, experts, and practitioners who deliberated on safeguarding measures and global cooperation for intangible cultural heritage.

2. UNESCO World Heritage Sites: India currently has 44 properties inscribed on the UNESCO World Heritage List. The most recent addition is the Maratha Military Landscapes of India (MMLI), inscribed as India's 44th World Heritage Site during the 47th session of the World Heritage Committee held in Paris in July. It is a serial nomination of 12 forts with 11 from Maharashtra and one from Tamil Nadu.

3. Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH)

   a) Nomination of Deepavali: India's nomination of Deepavali was inscribed under the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity during the ICH/20.COM session in December.

   b) Multinational Nomination on Henna: India has joined the multinational nomination 'Henna: Rituals, Aesthetics, and Social Practices' under the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, to be considered for inscription in December 2026. 16 Arab states supported India's joining this nomination led by the UAE.

   c) Multinational Nomination on Chhath Mahaparv: India, along with Fiji and Mauritius, has submitted the multinational nomination of Chhath Mahaparv for inscription on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity, to be considered in December 2027.

4. Return and Restitution of Cultural Property

   a) Repatriation of the Piprahwa Gems of the Historical Buddha: In a historic achievement, India successfully halted the proposed auction of the sacred Piprahwa Gems at Sotheby's Hong Kong and secured their repatriation. Following India's request under the 1970 Convention on 5 May, UNESCO intervened, leading to the halting of the auction in Hong Kong. On 30 July, the Minister of Culture and Tourism formally received the Piprahwa Gems of the Historical Buddha in New Delhi.

   b) Chola-era Copper Plates at Leiden University: India has continued to pursue the restitution of the Chola-era copper plates believed to have been taken from Nagapattinam, Tamil Nadu, to the Netherlands during the 18th century. Following India's official submission under the ICPRCP mechanism in 2023 and subsequent discussions during the 24th session in May 2024, UNESCO confirmed on 31 January that the case will be included in the agenda of the 25th ICPRCP session in 2026. It is believed that for the first time in the Convention's history, India raised the issue of the return of its cultural property.

5. Memory of the World (MoW) Programme: India currently has 12 elements of documentary heritage inscribed in the UNESCO Memory of the World International Register. In 2025, the Manuscript of the Nāṭyaśāstra of Bharatamuni and the Manuscript Collection of Bhagavadgītā were added to the Register.

6. Biosphere Reserves: India now has 13 biosphere reserves included in UNESCO's World Network of Biosphere Reserves (WNBR). In 2025, the Cold Desert Biosphere Reserve in Himachal Pradesh was added to the network. The Government of India has also submitted proposals for the inclusion of four new sites: Kanha Area (Madhya Pradesh), Pench Area (Madhya Pradesh), Bandhavgarh Area (Madhya Pradesh), and Dehang-Debang Area (Arunachal Pradesh).

7. UNESCO Creative Cities Network (UCCN): India presently has eight cities in the UNESCO Creative Cities Network. For the 2025 cycle, India has submitted nominations for Kohima (Music) and Lucknow (Gastronomy), of which Lucknow has been selected for the UCCN.

8. International Oceanographic Commission (IOC):

   a) Election to IOCINDIO Bureau: Director,

INCOIS, was elected as the Vice-Chairperson of the IOC Sub-Commission for the Central Indian Ocean (IOCINDIO) for the term 2025–2027, during the First Intergovernmental Session held in the UAE from 21 to 23 May.

b) Election to IOC Executive Council: India was elected as a member of the Executive Council of the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) for the ASPAC group for the term 2025–2027 during the 33rd Session of the IOC General Assembly held in July.

9. Cultural and Public Diplomacy Events:

a) World Hindi Day: On 13 January, the Permanent Delegation of India celebrated World Hindi Day at UNESCO Headquarters. 30 Ambassadors and Permanent Delegates extended their greetings through messages promoting Hindi as a global language of culture and communication.

b) International Mother Language Day 2025: India actively participated in the celebrations at UNESCO Headquarters. The Mission showcased India's linguistic diversity through books, banners, and flyers, and presented a cultural programme featuring Carnatic music and four classical dance forms, which received wide appreciation.

c) International Day of Yoga 2025: The Permanent Delegation of India celebrated the International Day of Yoga on 20 June at UNESCO Headquarters, in association with 'Mindfulness'. The session included the Common Yoga Protocol followed by meditation, with participation from representatives of several delegations.

10. 221st Session of the Executive Board:

a) National Statement: The Ambassador and Permanent Representative of India delivered India's National Statement, highlighting India's 75 years of independence and economic growth, noting a 105 percent GDP surge over the past decade. He advocated greater regional representation and highlighted biases in certain media portrayals, as well as methodological differences in UIS and World Bank rankings that impede global progress.

b) Agenda Item 5.I.B – Protect Education from Attack: India expressed its strong support for UNESCO's efforts, aligning with the UN Secretary-General's Report on Children and Armed Conflict as the guiding reference, while cautioning against reliance on NGO-based data with methodological inconsistencies.

c) Agenda Item 46 – UNESCO's Mandate on the Syrian Arab Republic: India highlighted its humanitarian assistance to Syria and historical cultural linkages, referencing the influence of the Panchatantra on the Arabic Kalila wa Dimna.

11. High-Level Visits:

a) Visit of Delegation from Maharashtra: A delegation led by the Minister of Cultural Affairs and Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra, visited Paris from 22 to 26 February in connection with the nomination of the Maratha Military Landscapes of India. A panel discussion was held at the ICOMOS headquarters on 24 February.

b) Visit of Minister of Education Haryana: The Minister for Education, Government of Haryana, visited UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, from 2 to 5 September to attend UNESCO's Digital Learning Week 2025.

c) Visit of Secretary (Culture): A delegation led by Secretary (Culture) visited UNESCO Headquarters, Paris, from 16 to 22 June to participate in the discussions related to the 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

d) Visit of Secretary (Sports): A delegation led by Secretary (Sports) visited UNESCO Headquarters from 21 to 22 May to attend

the fifth formal meeting of COP9 to the Anti-Doping Convention.

e) Visit of Additional Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra and Chief Secretary, Government of Maharashtra led a delegation to attend the 47th Session of the World Heritage Committee held from 6 to 14 July in Paris.

FAO, WFP and IFAD (Rome-based agencies)

The Permanent Representation of India to the UN Rome-based Agencies (RBAs) of the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO), the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), and the World Food Programme continued its strategic engagement and collaboration with both member countries and senior leadership in the RBAs.

Notable achievements and milestones of India at the FAO included India's unanimous re-election to the FAO Council for the 2026–2029 term, as well as the Minister of Agriculture and Alternate Permanent Representative being unanimously elected as Chairperson of the FAO Finance Committee (2025–2027), becoming the first Indian to hold a core governance position after 1985. India was re-elected to the Bureau of the Committee on World Food Security (CFS) for 2025–2027, representing Asia. India was also elected to the International Steering Committee of the Global Framework on Water Scarcity in Agriculture (WASAG). India successfully chaired and finalised the CFS policy on Strengthening Urban and Peri-Urban Food Systems, which was adopted in October. At the same time, India was re-elected to the WFP Executive Board Bureau and served as the Convenor for List B countries for the third consecutive year, reflecting the continued trust and support of member states in India's leadership and its commitment to inclusive multilateralism.

In the FAO's 80th anniversary year, an ambitious reform agenda was launched to make the organisation fit for purpose and future-ready. The Mission actively participated and made substantive contributions, which were well received.

In February, Mission and WFP-India organised a multimedia exhibition at WFP Headquarters in Rome, showcasing India's innovative food security initiatives developed in partnership with WFP, such as supply chain optimisation, Annapurti Grain ATM, SMART Warehousing, and rice fortification. In September, PMI and FAO signed an MoU for the refurbishment and modernisation of the iconic 'India Room' at FAO Headquarters in Rome, to be funded by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

Several delegations from the Government of India participated in key meetings at RBAs. Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, led India's participation in the FAO Global Conference on Sustainable Livestock Transformation from 29–30 September. Minister met FAO's Director General Dr. QU Dongyutore to review ongoing cooperation in fisheries, livestock, and dairy sectors. Secretary (Food and Public Distribution) also held meetings at WFP. Secretary (West) met Deputy Executive Director (DED) & Chief Operating Officer (COO) of World Food Programme (WFP) Carl Skau, during his visit to India in August and discussed issues related to food security, humanitarian relief, capacity building, as well as WFP's engagements and developments at the national and global level.

Inter Parliamentary Union

The 151st IPU Assembly was held in Geneva from 19-23 October. An Indian Parliamentary delegation comprising three Members of Parliament from Rajya Sabha and four Members of Parliament from Lok Sabha participated in the Assembly.

Antarctic and Arctic matters

On 2 January, EAM met the Chairman of Arctic Circle and former President of Iceland Ólafur Ragnar Grímsson in New Delhi and discussed matters related to the Arctic Circle. Later, during the Arctic Circle India Forum, which was held on 4-5 May in New

Delhi. EAM participated in a panel discussion with the Chairman of Arctic Circle and former President of Iceland. Former Prime Minister of Iceland and Chair of the Polar Dialogue Katrin Jakobsdóttir also travelled to India for the same.

On 21 July, a team comprising nine scientists led by a senior scientist from National Centre for Polar Research (NCPOR), Goa undertook a 15-day expedition aboard Swedish research vessel R/V Skagerak from Reykjavik, Iceland to the East Greenland Sea. The Ministry also held meetings with Project Officer of the International Arctic Science Committee Federica Scarpa and met with officials from the Conservation of Arctic Flora and Fauna (CAFF) and Protection of the Arctic Marine Environment (PAME) Working Groups of the Arctic Council in Akureyri.

An Indian delegation-led by Indian Navy's Rear Admiral participated in the Arctic Frontiers Conference and related engagements in Norway from 29 January to 7 February. The visit included meetings with key Arctic stakeholders, including the Arctic Council, the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Arctic Economic Council, UiT – The Arctic University of Norway, Kongsberg Satellite Services, and the Norwegian Polar Institute. Discussions focused on enhancing India's participation in Arctic Council Working Groups, strengthening cooperation in polar research, maritime security, space applications, education, and industry collaboration, and exploring new opportunities in renewable energy, bioprospecting, and climate security. The visit reaffirmed India's commitment to active and constructive engagement in the Arctic region.

Later in the year, an Indian delegation-led by Indian Navy's Rear Admiral participated in the Arctic Circle Assembly on 16-18 October. A session titled 'Role and Importance of Global South in the Arctic' was organised and moderated by the Indian delegation. Two scientists from NCPOR and two officials from the Ministry of AYUSH also participated. The delegation also held bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the Assembly.

At the Arctic Security Conference 2025, experts discussed evolving power dynamics and governance in the Arctic amid growing geopolitical rivalry and climate challenges. The Indian delegation highlighted India's scientific engagement with the Arctic since 2007, emphasising the interlinkages between the Arctic, the Himalayas, and the Indian monsoon, and noting that 'science is the currency' of India's Arctic engagement. The delegation also underscored that Arctic security extends beyond geopolitics to encompass human security, traditional livelihoods, and sustainable development, in line with India's Arctic Policy 2022. The delegation emphasised India's role as a bridge between the Global North and South, advocating dialogue, multilateralism, and collaborative climate research. A representative from the Indian Naval War College reaffirmed India's commitment to peaceful engagement, maritime cooperation, and science-driven participation in Arctic governance and security.

The team of Indian scientists at Ny-Ålesund visited Oslo and held meetings with the Indian Embassy. The six-member delegation was led by an NCPOR Scientist, who briefed officials on India's research activities in Ny-Ålesund. Appreciating the support received from Kingsbay and the Norwegian authorities, they elaborated on 'Himadri' (India's research station at Ny-Ålesund, Svalbard), especially after India decided to deploy scientists year-round, including in winter from December 2023.

Kimberley Process

The Kimberley Process is an international certification scheme established in 2003 to ensure that rough diamond exports are conflict-free and to prevent trade in conflict diamonds. India is a founding member of the Kimberley Process and plays a significant role as one of the world's largest diamond-cutting and polishing centres. India was elected as the Vice-Chair (2025) / Chair (2026) on 9 December.

CHAPTER

13

G20

South Africa assumed the G20 Presidency on 1 December 2024. At the first Sherpa meeting, held from 9–11 December 2024, the Presidency highlighted its overarching focus on Africa's development agenda, strengthening support for the developing economies of Africa and the Global South, and building on the achievements of the Indonesian, Indian, and Brazilian G20 Presidencies. Under the overarching theme of 'Solidarity, Equality, Sustainability', South Africa has identified four key priorities:

(i) Strengthening disaster resilience and enhancing response mechanisms.

(ii) Ensuring debt sustainability in low-income countries.

(iii) Mobilising finance for a just energy transition.

(iv) Harnessing critical minerals to promote inclusive growth and sustainable development.

India participated actively across G20 engagements in 2025 under the South African Presidency, contributing to consensus-building on geopolitical and development issues, strengthening focus on countering terrorism and its financing, and reinforcing the centrality of the development agenda, including Africa-focused priorities and the continuity of outcomes from India's G20 Presidency.

Major Developments

South Africa's G20 Presidency 2025

India ensured a high level of participation during the South African G20 Presidency to meaningfully contribute to the outcomes. Ministerial representation was provided at several G20 Ministerial meetings hosted by South Africa, including participation by EAM, the Minister of Culture, MoS (PM), MoS (Commerce and Industry), and the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister.

EAM led the Indian delegation to the first G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting under the South African G20 Presidency, held on 20–21 February. During

the meeting, EAM made interventions in the plenary sessions on the themes: Discussion on the Global Geopolitical Situation; and G20 Objectives: Reflection on South Africa's G20 Presidency High-Level Deliverables and the Review of the G20.

MoS (PM) led the Indian delegation to the G20 Development Ministers' Meeting under the South African Presidency, held on 24–25 July in Skukuza, Mpumalanga, South Africa. The Ministers adopted a Ministerial Declaration and two outcome documents, namely a Call to Action for Combating Illicit Financial Flows and a Call to Action on Social Protection Systems. At the behest of India, the Declaration recognised 'terrorism' as a 'global crisis' for the first time in a G20 Development Ministerial Declaration.

The imperative to counter the financing of terror was also highlighted in the Call to Action on Illicit Financial Flows. India's key outcomes, including digital public infrastructure, women-led development, and the 2023 Action Plan on Accelerating Progress on the SDGs, were reinforced.

EAM participated in the second G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting, held on 25 September in New York on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA). He made an intervention during the meeting, which was held on the theme 'The United Nations at 80: Reaffirming Peace as a Path to Sustainable Economic Development'.



EAM addressed the G20 Foreign Ministers' Meeting hosted by South Africa on the sidelines of the 80th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA80) in New York, September 2025

Deputy Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha led the Indian Parliamentary delegation to the Parliament20 Summit held in Cape Town from 1–3 October. A Judge of the Supreme Court participated in the Judiciary20 Summit held in Johannesburg from 3–4 September.

The G20 Disaster Risk Reduction Working Group, established during India's Presidency, was continued under the South African Presidency. The Ministerial Meeting was held on 12–13 October. The Indian delegation was led by the Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister. The G20 Ministerial Declaration titled 'Resilience for All: Strengthening Disaster Risk Reduction through Solidarity, Equality and Sustainability' was adopted by consensus and included references to digital public infrastructure, promotion of women's leadership in disaster management, and risk-informed development, in line with Prime Minister's 10-point agenda on Disaster Risk Reduction.

The fourth G20 Sherpa Meeting to finalise the G20 South Africa Summit: Leaders' Declaration was held from 16–20 November in Johannesburg. The G20 South Africa Summit was held in Johannesburg on 22–23 November, during which the G20 South Africa Summit: Leaders' Declaration was adopted. India played an important role in shaping the outcomes of the Declaration, centring it on the development agenda, with particular emphasis on issues concerning Africa, while reinforcing the key outcomes of India's Presidency.

Prime Minister participated in the G20 Leaders' Summit, held on 22–23 November in Johannesburg, hosted by the President of South Africa Cyril Ramaphosa. Elaborating on India's approach to growth, development, and well-being for all, Prime Minister proposed seven ideas for the G20 to consider during the Leaders' Summit. These were as follows:

(i) Creation of a G20 Global Traditional Knowledge Repository: To harness the collective wisdom of humanity for the benefit of future generations.

(ii) Creation of a G20 Africa Skills Multiplier: To develop a pool of one million certified trainers for skilling the youth in Africa, thereby creating local capacities and fostering long-term development across the continent.

(iii) Creation of a G20 Global Healthcare Response Team: To comprise healthcare experts from each G20 country, deployable to address global health challenges in any part of the world.

(iv) Establishment of a G20 Open Satellite Data Partnership: To make satellite data from G20 space agencies available to developing countries for agriculture, fisheries, disaster management, and other related activities.

(v) Creation of a G20 Critical Minerals Circularity Initiative: To promote recycling, urban mining, second-life battery projects and innovation, strengthen supply chain security, and support cleaner pathways of development.

(vi) Creation of a G20 Initiative on Countering the Drug–Terror Nexus: To address drug trafficking and disrupt the drug–terror economy.

(vii) Creation of a G20 Global Framework for Talent Mobility: To unlock talent and foster rapid innovation to meet the needs of a technology-led world.

The United States' G20 Presidency 2026

The US assumed the G20 Presidency for 2026 on 1 December. The first meeting of G20 Sherpas under the US G20 Presidency was held on 15–16 December.



Prime Minister along with other G20 Leaders at the Leaders' Summit in Johannesburg, November 2025

CHAPTER

14

Multilateral Economic Relations

BRICS

BRICS has emerged as a useful platform for consultations on a range of issues of common interest covering political, economic, and cultural cooperation. It has expanded to include 11 member countries- Brazil, China, Egypt, Ethiopia, India, Indonesia, Iran, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa and the UAE; and 10 BRICS Partner countries- Belarus, Bolivia, Cuba, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Nigeria, Thailand, Uganda, Uzbekistan and Vietnam.

17th BRICS Summit

The Prime Minister led an Indian delegation for the 17th BRICS Summit on the theme 'Strengthening Global South Cooperation for a More Inclusive and Sustainable Governance', held on 6-7 July in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

During the Summit, the BRICS Rio Summit Leaders' Declaration and three thematic documents - BRICS Leaders' Framework Declaration on Climate Finance; BRICS Leaders' Statement on the Global Governance of Artificial Intelligence; and BRICS Partnership for the Elimination of Socially Determined Diseases were adopted.

During the BRICS Sherpas Meeting on 12 December, Brazil handed over the BRICS Presidency to India.

BRICS Ministerial-level meetings

BRICS Foreign Ministers/International Affairs Meeting was hosted by Brazil on 28-29 April in Rio de Janeiro. The Chair's Statement was issued for the Meeting. EAM represented India in the virtual meeting of BRICS Leaders on 8 September, to discuss current global developments, with a focus on the economy, environment and the state of the multilateral system. As an incoming chair of the BRICS, EAM chaired the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting, on the sidelines of the UNGA on 26 September, in New York. A Joint Media Statement was adopted during the Meeting.



EAM chaired the BRICS Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of the UNGA in New York, September 2025.

Under the BRICS framework, several ministerial meetings were held in Brasília. The Environment Ministers' Meeting was held on 3 April, where a joint statement was adopted. The Agriculture Minister led the Indian delegation to the BRICS Agriculture Group Ministerial Meeting on 17 April. The Disaster Management Ministerial Meeting was held on 9 May. The Tourism Ministerial Meeting was held on 12 May, and a joint declaration was adopted during the meeting. The Minister of Road Transport and Highways participated in the Transport Ministers' Meeting held on 14 May. The Minister of Power participated in the Energy Ministers' Meeting on 19 May. A Joint Communique on the BRICS ERCP Roadmap-30 was adopted during the meeting. Trade Ministers' Meeting and Industry Ministers' Meeting was held on 21 May. The Minister of Culture represented India in the Culture Ministerial Meeting on 26 May. The Sports Ministers' Meeting was held on 4 June, where a MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Physical Culture and Sport was signed. During the Education Ministerial Meeting on 5 June, a Joint Declaration and the BRICS Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) Cooperation Alliance Charter was adopted. BRICS MoU on Cooperation in Youth Affairs was adopted during the BRICS Youth Summit and Ministerial Meeting on 9-10 June. BRICS Health Ministerial Meeting was held on 17 June, where the Health Declaration was adopted. BRICS STI Ministerial Declaration was adopted during BRICS Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) Ministerial Meeting on 25 June. The first BRICS Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors Meeting was convened on 5 July in Rio de Janeiro. A Joint Statement was adopted in the meeting.

MoS (Ministry of Labour and Employment) participated in the Employment Ministers Meeting which was conducted on 25 April. MoS (Department of Telecommunication) represented India in the Communication Ministerial Meeting on 28-29 April. Lok Sabha Speaker participated in the BRICS Parliamentary Forum held on 4-5 June. At the conclusion, the chairship of the 12th BRICS Parliamentary Forum was formally handed to India. Deputy NSA (Strategic Affairs) led an Indian delegation to the BRICS National Security Advisors' Meeting on 29-30 April. The Embassy of India participated in the Women Ministers' Meeting held on 24 April. BRICS Heads of Space Agency Meeting was held on 28-29 April. Distinguished Scientists from ISRO participated in the meeting. BRICS Joint Statistical Publication was finalised during the Meeting of Heads of BRICS National Statistical Officers (NSOs) on 10-11 June.

The 29th BRICS AML/CFT Meeting chaired by Russia was held virtually, on 14 October.

India-Brazil-South Africa Dialogue Forum (IBSA)

Prime Minister led the Indian delegation for the IBSA Leaders' Meeting held on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, on 23 November.



Prime Minister participated in the IBSA Leaders' Meeting on the sidelines of the G20 Summit in Johannesburg, November 2025.

EAM participated in the IBSA Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of UNGA on 26 September, in New York. A Media Statement of the 13th IBSA Trilateral Ministerial Commission Meeting was adopted during the meeting.



EAM participated in the IBSA Foreign Ministers' Meeting on the sidelines of UNGA in New York, September 2025.

G7

Prime Minister participated in the Outreach Session of the 51st G7 Summit on 16-17 June in Kananaskis, Canada, under Canadian presidency. He addressed the session on the theme 'Energy Security: Diversification, Technology and Infrastructure to Ensure Access and Affordability in a Changing World', presenting India's vision and solutions on issues of mutual importance.



Prime Minister participated in the Outreach Session of the 51st G7 Summit in Canada, June 2025.

Asia Cooperation Dialogue (ACD)

JS (Sports-Development) led the Indian delegation for the ACD Sports Ministerial Meeting held virtually on 5 November. It also saw the participation of AD(MER).

CHAPTER

15

Disarmament & International Security Affairs

India actively participated in multilateral forums on disarmament, non-proliferation, and international security, while considering its national security interests and priorities in this arena. During 2025, India held bilateral engagements and presented its perspectives in regional forums on these issues. India's contributions underlined its longstanding commitment to the goal of universal and non-discriminatory nuclear disarmament and to supporting global peace and security in areas such as space, maritime security, and non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, while responding to the evolving international security environment and initiatives by various countries.

First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)

India participated constructively and presented its principled positions and views on disarmament and international security matters at the 80th session of the First Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) in New York from 8 October to 7 November.

The 80th UNGA First Committee adopted four resolutions annually tabled by India. Resolutions on 'Measures to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons of mass destruction' and 'Role of science and technology in the context of international security and disarmament' were again adopted by consensus by the Committee. India's two other resolutions in the First Committee, 'Convention on the Prohibition of the Use of Nuclear Weapons', which calls for negotiations on an international Convention for prohibiting the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and 'Reducing Nuclear Danger', which calls for immediate steps to reduce the risk of intentional or accidental use of nuclear weapons, were also adopted by a broad support of the UN member States. A total of 63 resolutions were adopted during the 80th First Committee.

Conference on Disarmament (CD)

The Conference on Disarmament (CD) adopted a Program of Work for 2025, based entirely on the one adopted for the 2024 session, which was based on the Indian proposal presented at the beginning of 2024 during its Presidency of the CD. The subsidiary bodies discussed all core agenda items of the CD, including nuclear disarmament, prevention of nuclear war and all related matters, prevention of an arms race in outer space, international arrangements to assure non-nuclear weapon states against the use or threat of use of nuclear weapons, and new types of weapons of mass destruction and transparency in armaments.

United Nations Disarmament Commission (UNDC)

The UNDC held its annual substantive session in New York from 7 to 25 April. The session was the second year of the ongoing three-year cycle that began last year. The two working groups discussed nuclear disarmament and the security implications of emerging technologies. India actively participated in the UNDC meetings.

Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC)

India continued to play an active and constructive role in advancing the objectives of the Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons (OPCW), including the implementation of the Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) across chemical weapons destruction, industry verification, national measures, and international cooperation.

India participated constructively in the 30th Conference of State Parties and the 109th and 110th sessions of the Executive Council at The Hague, which evaluated the Convention's implementation and the OPCW's activities over the previous year and set out future priorities for the OPCW. India presented its perspectives on matters relating to the Convention and its implementation, especially on the industry verification and inspection regime. India fulfilled its obligations under the Convention during the year and extended support to the OPCW for the smooth conduct of scheduled inspections of chemical facilities in India.

India contributed to the OPCW's capacity-building activities through courses on developing analytical and laboratory skills, conducted by the Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (IICT) in Hyderabad in collaboration with the OPCW Technical Secretariat. Through this programme, 144 participants from 54 different State Parties were trained.

India hosted the 23rd Regional Meeting of National Authorities on 1-3 July, bringing together 38 participants from 24 State Parties. At this forum, India actively engaged with regional counterparts to exchange best practices on national legislation, inspection regimes, oversight of dual-use chemicals, and capacity-building initiatives.

Biological & Toxin Weapons Convention (BTWC)

India actively participated in the sessions of the Working Group on Strengthening of the BTWC from 11 to 22 August and 8 to 12 December, and the annual Meeting of States Parties to the BTWC from 15 to 17 December. During the meetings, India outlined its priorities, including strengthening the Convention, enhancing national implementation, promoting efforts in response and preparedness, reviewing international developments in the field of science and technology, international cooperation and assistance in general, and establishing a scientific review mechanism under the BTWC. The international conference on '50 Years of BWC: Strengthening Biosecurity for the Global South' was organised by the Ministry to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the entry into force of the BTWC in New Delhi on 1-2 December. It saw participation from over 80 countries' representatives from the Global South, as well as panellists from different regional and international organisations. It was highlighted as a mark of India's commitment to and contribution to the strengthening of the Convention.



EAM addressed the conference on '50 Years of the Biological Weapons Convention: Strengthening Bio-security for the Global South' in New Delhi, December 2025

India also continued its annual submissions to the BTWC as part of Confidence-Building Measures and engaged constructively with other countries on specific issues.

Forums on Conventional Weapons

India participated in the meetings of Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (GGE on LAWS) under the Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons (CCW), held at Geneva from 3-7 March and 1-5 September, where it emphasised the need for a shared and common understanding of LAWS. It reiterated the importance of the CCW forum for further progress on the subject. India also participated in the experts' meetings on Protocol V related to Explosive Remnants of War and the Amended Protocol II on Prohibitions or Restrictions on the Use of Mines, Booby-Traps and Other Devices from 8-11 September.

India participated as an observer at the Inter-Sessional Meeting of the Member State Parties (MSP) to the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention at Geneva from 17-20 June. During the meeting, India reiterated its respect for and due consideration of the provisions of international humanitarian law in this regard. It outlined its contribution to training in de-mining and capacity building for various countries.

During the year, India's efforts to showcase the contribution of Indian women in the field of security and defence at UN-led fora resulted in various engagements on the international arena. Following successful examples in 2023 and 2024, Indian women armament and ammunition technical officers (AATOs) were invited to train international women ammunition experts in ammunition management. Indian women AATOs were deputed as trainers in the UN SaferGuard Training for Women Ammunition Technical Experts on the International Ammunition Technical Guidelines in Austria from 30 June to 11 July, and nominated to attend the UN SaferGuard Technical Review Board Working Group on Physical Security and Stockpile Management at Geneva on 3-7 November.

AI in the Military Domain

A seminar was co-organised with the Ministry of Defence and hosted by the Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses on 'India's approach to AI in Military Domain and Emerging Technologies in areas of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS)' from 28 to 30 January.

Furthermore, India actively participated in the REAIM Regional Consultation for Asia-Pacific, co-hosted by the Republic of Korea, the Netherlands, and Spain, in Seoul on 20-21 May, which brought together stakeholders from governments, international

organisations, industry, academia and civil society to discuss norms and principles to guide the development and use of Artificial Intelligence for military applications.

Non-Proliferation Matters and Strategic Export Control Regimes

India engaged with relevant mechanisms of the UN on specific matters relating to the non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and associated developments of the DPRK and other UNSC Committees and Panels.

Under India's WMD Act 2005 and its Rules, the various Advisory Committees held review meetings on policy, implementation, and other relevant issues during the year.

India engaged as a member of multilateral export control regimes towards the goals of non-proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and their delivery systems, related materials, equipment and technologies. This included sharing of best practices or implementation experiences in the area of export controls; participation in the development/ amendment of guidelines for export controls and lists of materials, equipment and technologies regulated under the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) and Australia Group (AG), and harmonising India's national export control list (SCOMET) with that of these regimes and the Nuclear Suppliers Group (NSG).

India participated in the Australia Group (AG) Inter-sessional meeting (January - February) at Bucharest and the AG Plenary (40th Anniversary) meeting (July) at Sydney, the Experts Group and the General Working Group meetings of Wassenaar Agreement (April, May, September and October) at Vienna, and the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR) Technical Experts meeting (April) at Berlin, related to consultations on evolving the control lists and best practice guidelines of the respective export control regimes, as well as information exchange on implementation experiences, technological developments, proliferation trends, and addressing these issues as they emerge.

The Ministry continued to contribute to the export licensing processes of the Inter-Ministerial Working Group (IMWG), led by the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) for export-controlled dual-use items under India's Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET) list, as well as by the Department of Defence Production (DDP) for export of Category 6 (Munitions List) military items of SCOMET and by the Department of Atomic Energy for export of nuclear-related items.

Further, the Ministry continued working with DGFT to streamline the licensing process for certain categories of dual-use items, taking into account the item of export, end use, end user, and destination, among other things, and moving towards enhanced digitalisation of the licensing process and integration with relevant agencies. The Ministry also engaged with the enforcement mechanisms and agencies, including the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and its organisations, in the context of our national non-proliferation objectives.

The Ministry, together with its partners, including the DGFT, DDP, CBIC, various industry chambers, and other stakeholders, conducted outreach activities throughout the year to raise awareness of India's strategic export controls. Along with the focus on region- and sector-specific outreach programmes that have continued over the last few years, there was also a thrust on reaching out to start-ups, micro, small, and medium enterprises, academic and research institutions, etc., through the relevant organisations.

In this regard, the Government of India (DGFT, the Ministry, and relevant agencies), in partnership with various industry bodies and other stakeholders, has been organising the National Conference on Strategic Trade Controls (NCSTC), which, since 2024, has been restructured from earlier editions into a unique format. This annual NCSTC (2025 edition was held at Bengaluru in January) focuses on India's strategic trade control system and international best practices, comprising wider participation of- the Government agencies concerned, industry and other stakeholders across relevant sectors, international speakers

(Wassenaar Arrangement Head of Secretariat and Australia Group Chair were the keynote speakers, among others), and foreign delegates and participants from various countries.

This year the NCSTC was attended by over 600 participants, comprising around 50 speakers across eight thematic sessions, and featured the release of an updated Handbook on India's Strategic Trade Control (STC) System. An additional outreach event on SCOMET, export control compliance, and regulations was organised in Chennai in August, focusing on industries in and around the region.

International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

The Director General of the IAEA Rafael Grossi visited India from 18 to 20 March. During his visit, he met EAM and attended the Raisina Dialogue, where he spoke on 'Energy Access, Affordability and Security'. He inaugurated the SN Bose Building of the Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) and introduced a certificate course on nuclear engineering. The Director-General also visited the Kakrapar Atomic Power Station. He concluded the visit to the Tata Memorial Centre (TMC) in Mumbai by signing an MoU recognising TMC as an IAEA Rays of Hope Anchor Centre. The MoU strengthens India's global role in cancer care, research & training through nuclear medicine.



EAM met Director General of the IAEA Rafael Mariano Grossi on the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue 2025 in New Delhi, March 2025

India participated in the 69th session of the IAEA General Conference, held in Vienna on 15-19 September, as well as in the Board of Governors meetings held in March, June, September, October and November. At these meetings, India contributed to deliberations on nuclear safeguards, the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, technical cooperation, nuclear security, and safety-related issues. India and the IAEA deepened cooperation in the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including through the IAEA's flagship programs.

India's Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) collaborates with the IAEA and various partner countries to build capacity in areas such as advanced nuclear energy systems, nuclear security, the application of radioisotopes and radiation technologies, radiological safety, and nuclear material characterisation.

Civil Nuclear Cooperation

India engaged with various countries in the field of nuclear power generation and other peaceful uses of nuclear energy, including radioisotope applications in medicine. GCNEP entered into an MoU with Tanzania (August) for cooperation in the field of peaceful uses of nuclear energy, along with a Declaration of Intent to establish a partnership on SMRs/AMRs with France (February).

India also continued to contribute to mega science projects involving various partners towards scientific research, including through its Associate Membership of the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN), its partnership of the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER), the Square Kilometre Array Observatory, and with the US on the Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory (LIGO) and Proton Improvement Plan-II projects.

Outer Space Matters

India continued to participate actively and present its perspectives on matters related to outer space at the Conference on Disarmament, as well as meetings

of the United Nations Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (COPUOS) and its subsidiary bodies. As Chair of the Working Group on the Long-term Sustainability of Outer Space Activities, India continued to closely engage with UN Member States during the Working Group meetings to advance the goal of a safe and responsible use of outer space. The adoption, by consensus, of the group's report by COPUOS in June is an important achievement.

India participated in the sessions of the Open-Ended Working Group on the Prevention of an Arms Race in Outer Space, constituted following UN General Assembly Decision 79/512, from 7 to 11 April and from 21 to 25 July in Geneva.

India continued to implement the provisions of the Hague Code of Conduct (HCoC), including pre-launch notifications for India's ballistic missile and space launches and the submission of annual declarations to the arrangement. India participated in the 24th Annual Regular Meeting of the HCoC held at Vienna on 4-5 June.

Maritime Security Affairs

As an important stakeholder in maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region and globally, India maintained active engagement with countries and multilateral organisations. India expanded engagement at the Information Fusion Centre Indian Ocean region (IFC-IOR), where various countries posted liaison officers, including the first representative of the Djibouti Code of Conduct, to enhance mutual understanding and cooperation in the maritime domain.

India participated in the inaugural workshop to establish the DCoC working group on operational cooperation and coordination at sea. The eighth DCoC–Jeddah Amendment (DCoC-JA) High-Level Meeting was held in Mauritius from 12-14 November.

India participated virtually in the G7++ Friends of the Gulf of Guinea Working Group on Education, Training and Exercises on 31 July.

India continues to be an active member of ReCAAP and contributes to the construct as an important maritime security stakeholder in the region. The former Additional Director General of the Indian Coast Guard was elected as the Executive Director of the ReCAAP Information Sharing Centre (ISC) for the years 2025-2028. India also participated in the ReCAAP ISC Capacity Building Senior Official Meeting held in Thailand from 25-29 August.

India participated virtually in the Contact Group on Illicit Maritime Activities (CGIMA) Strategic Session, held in the margins of the 53rd SHADE Meeting in Bahrain on 23 October. India was actively involved in the deliberations on the strategic vision for the new group.

India continued to actively engage with the Co-operative Mechanism on the Straits of Malacca and Singapore (SOMS), the Aids to Navigation Fund (ANF) Committee in the Straits of Malacca, and other fora. Since its establishment, India has continued to make financial contributions, totalling USD 481,484 to date. India participated in the 32nd ANF committee meeting at Singapore on 6-7 May. The 33rd ANF Committee meeting, being hosted by Singapore, was held on 5-6 November.

In addition to the above, India has also continued to engage with the Indo-Pacific region to build and enhance maritime resilience through the QUAD Maritime Security Working Group (QMSWG). India attended the QMSWG meeting in Tokyo, Japan, on 3-4 April, during which the Indian delegation proposed several initiatives to strengthen collaborative efforts among QUAD partners to enhance maritime security in the Indo-Pacific region.

Dialogue with other countries

India held separate maritime security dialogues during the year with the EU (in New Delhi on 21 March), Japan (in Tokyo on 2 April), Norway (inaugural dialogue was held in Oslo on 11 September), and Greece (inaugural dialogue was held in Athens on 11 December) to exchange assessments of maritime situations, perspectives about the developments in areas of

interest, cooperation opportunities and strengthening of maritime security internationally.

ASEAN REGIONAL FORUM (ARF)

MoS (PM) participated in the 32nd ARF in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, on 11 July, and the Secretary (East) represented India at the ASEAN Regional Forum Senior Officials' Meeting (ARF SOM) on 11 June at Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. India attaches great importance to the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF), as it provides a vital platform for promoting dialogue, building confidence, and advancing cooperative security in the Indo-Pacific region. Through sustained engagement in ARF Events, India contributed to capacity-building, humanitarian assistance, disaster relief, and maritime security initiatives.

During the year, India actively participated in the 16th ARF ISM on Maritime Security, co-chaired by China and Cambodia, held in Beijing, China on 24-25 April. India shared perspectives on maritime security, including successes achieved by its maritime security agencies, and noted that they work independently and with like-minded partners in the region. Additionally, India advanced the agenda of the 26th ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) Ministerial Meeting and, through a multi-ministerial delegation, delivered training to support the formulation of a Best Practices Manual on the International Ship and Port Facility Security (ISPS) Code, which was completed in July.

Later in the year, India participated in the 13th Expanded ASEAN Maritime Forum (13th EAMF) at Port Dickson, Malaysia on 11 September. India briefed the participants on its approach to the region as encapsulated by its vision articulated in MAHASAGAR-Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Region, reflecting our commitment to building a safe, secure and sustainable maritime domain and tangible efforts taken towards fulfilling our commitment towards ASEAN's Master Plan on Connectivity 2025. Meaningful initiatives and concrete steps aimed at conserving and preserving the marine environment continue to be supported, including active support to UNEA Resolution 5/14, signing agreement on BBNJ and recognising IUU as a significant threat to marine biodiversity, regional food security and the livelihood of millions who depend on coastal and oceanic resources were also highlighted in the forum.

ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) and ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting Plus (ADMM-Plus)

Raksha Mantri led India's participation at the 12th ADMM-Plus meeting in Malaysia from 30 October to 1 November, during which he delivered a speech reflecting on the 15th year. In his speech, Raksha Mantri reaffirmed India's emphasis on the rule of law and freedom of navigation. He added that overflight in the Indo-Pacific is not directed against any country but aimed at safeguarding the shared interests of all regional stakeholders. He underlined that India's strategic engagement with ASEAN is long-term and principle-driven, grounded in an open, inclusive and non-coercive Indo-Pacific. He highlighted inclusivity and sustainability as core to regional security, linking defence cooperation with economic development, technology sharing and capacity building. Stressing India's readiness to deepen cooperation through dialogue and practical initiatives, Raksha Mantri said India would continue to contribute constructively under the vision of MAHASAGAR to promote regional peace, stability, and collective security.

Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA)

Secretary General of CICA Kairat Sarybay paid a visit to India on 18 March and met with the Secretary (West), Joint Secretary (Disarmament and International Security Affairs), and Joint Secretary (Counter Terrorism). India is a Member State of CICA, and during the meetings, there was a thorough exchange of views on the growing role of CICA as an effective tool of multilateral diplomacy, the significance of its proposed gradual transformation into a full-fledged international organisation, and India's engagement with various CICA initiatives. India participated in the

Informal CICA Ministerial Meeting held in New York on 25 September.

India also attended and shared its perspectives at various CICA events, such as 'Conference on the Development of the Transport and Logistics Potential of the CICA Member States' (May), 'Intermodal transportation as a factor in ensuring the economic growth of the CICA Member States' (May), CICA Business Council and Business Forum Meetings (May), and CICA Think Tank Forum Meeting (September). Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA) has taken over the chairmanship of the CICA Think Tank Forum (an advisory body of CICA) for 2026-2027.

Fellowship Programme on Disarmament and International Security Affairs

As part of India's commitment to promote disarmament, non-proliferation and arms control education and to equip young diplomats with knowledge and skills in these fields, the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, in collaboration with the Disarmament and International Security Affairs Division, organised the fifth edition of the Disarmament and International Security Affairs Fellowship for foreign diplomats from 13–31 January. It saw the participation of diplomats from 33 countries. The initiative fulfils the mandate of the UNGA Resolution 'UN study on disarmament and non-proliferation education'. It is in line with the focus on 'Disarmament Education' in the UN Secretary General's Agenda for Disarmament 'Securing our Common Future'.

India-UN Capacity Building Programme on UNSC Resolution 1540 and strategic trade controls

India supported the UNSC 1540 Committee's mandate and its work (on weapons of mass destruction-related non-proliferation), wherever possible, by offering to share knowledge and technical expertise in various areas as part of the Committee's assistance framework. In this context, India (CBIC, the Ministry and relevant Government agencies), in partnership with the United Nations Office for Disarmament Affairs (UNODA), organised the first-ever Capacity Building Programme of its kind on the UNSC Resolution 1540 and Strategic Trade Controls (STC) for relevant Government officials from 8 Asia-Pacific Countries at the National Academy of Customs, Indirect Taxes and Narcotics (NACIN) Palasamudram in February.

Speakers and experts from the UNSC 1540 Committee and UNODA, relevant Government of India agencies, and members of Indian industry shared their implementation experiences and best practices on pertinent aspects of UNSC Resolution 1540 and the STC. In view of the excellent feedback and appreciation received from the UN and international participants, this programme would be conducted annually, sponsored by India under the ITEC framework, and its second edition would be organised for more countries from the Asia-Pacific and Africa. This unique and flagship programme is a reaffirmation of India's robust credentials on non-proliferation and a further demonstration of India's contribution to the international non-proliferation architecture.

CHAPTER

16

Economic Diplomacy

Overview

The Economic Diplomacy (ED) Division is the economic wing of the Ministry of External Affairs and works in close coordination with Indian Missions and Posts abroad, territorial divisions of the MEA, ministries and departments of the Government of India, State Governments and foreign missions and posts in India. During the year, the ED Division played an important role in advancing India's economic diplomacy through high-level business engagements, flagship investment summits and outreach activities in collaboration with line ministries, industry chambers, export promotion councils, territorial divisions of the Ministry and Indian Missions abroad. It further handled issues related to energy security, healthcare, registration of companies, processing of foreign direct investment proposals, air services agreements, social security agreements and engaged with multilateral organisations and institutions such as UNCITRAL, the Permanent Court of Arbitration, the International Solar Alliance, the Coalition of Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, the Global Biofuels Alliance and the partnership between India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States (I2U2).

Trade and Investment

To bolster the promotion of trade, tourism and technology as key pillars of India's economic diplomacy, the ED Division, in coordination with Indian Missions and Posts abroad, strived to enhance India's trade and investment activities. These activities were aimed at expanding bilateral trade and foreign direct investment values, presence of Indian entities abroad, sectoral trade shares, export expansion priorities, challenge mitigations, innovative initiatives and budgetary support across various funds.

Export Promotion Mission

The Export Promotion Mission (EPM) launched by the Government of India was strengthened through five

region-wise high-level Export Promotion Workshops conducted during November and December, with participation from Indian Missions abroad, Export Promotion Councils and Industry Bodies. The ED functioned as a key coordination division between Indian Missions and the Department of Commerce for the EPM Workshops.

Promotion of Indian Coffee Abroad

ED Division, in collaboration with the Coffee Board of India, undertook efforts to promote the export of Indian coffee abroad. It coordinated with Missions and Posts abroad to organise market intelligence studies, coffee cupping sessions and seller delegations for the export of Indian coffee.

Foreign Direct Investment

The ED Division was the nodal division in the Ministry for processing foreign direct investment cases. It played a facilitative role in processing such cases, working with DPIIT, Invest India, state investment agencies and Indian Missions abroad. India witnessed a significant increase in foreign direct investment during the first quarter of FY 2025-26 compared to FY 2024-25, amounting to USD 18.62 billion.

Acquisition of Critical Minerals Abroad

ED Division coordinated India's international efforts on critical minerals and facilitated collaboration with the Ministry of Mines. The Division collated and circulated information on investment opportunities aligned with the National Critical Minerals Mission and strengthened partnerships with Africa, Australia and Latin America.

Internationalisation of Indian Rupee (INR), SRVA & LCSS

Promoting the international use of the Indian Rupee helps reduce foreign exchange risk, boost trade in INR, and strengthen India's economic sovereignty. The introduction of Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) and Local Currency Settlement Systems (LCSS) has advanced this vision.

Local Currency Settlement System (LCSS)

The LCSS framework has a wider coverage and includes all current account and permissible capital account transactions between the partner countries. Entering into LCSS arrangements would help further internationalise the INR. India has signed LCSS agreements with four countries: the UAE, Indonesia, Mauritius, and the Maldives. Further to this, currently the LCSS arrangement process has been initiated with Qatar, Kuwait, South Africa and Kenya. Similar arrangements are under consideration with Tanzania and Nigeria.

Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs)

ED Division coordinated with DEA and RBI to facilitate SRVA operationalisation. The ED Division also engages with Indian missions abroad to explore the interest and readiness of partner banks and promote INR trade settlements with strategic regions. Many countries have shown positive interest in trade settlement using mutual currencies.

The RBI has removed prior approvals (the earlier requirement) for Authorised Dealer banks to open SRVAs of correspondent banks, to enable invoicing, payment, and settlement of imports/exports in INR. Several foreign banks have since opened SRVAs with banks in India, and the RBI has also signed MoUs with some Central Banks to encourage cross-border transactions in local currencies. These measures are aimed at promoting 'Ease of Doing Business' and boosting exports. As of now, Special Rupee Vostro Accounts (SRVAs) are operational in 34 countries.

UPI apps

Acceptance of Indian UPI apps through QR codes has been enabled in

Bhutan, France, Mauritius, Nepal, Singapore, Sri Lanka and UAE. Indian tourists travelling to these countries

can use their UPI apps to make payments at merchant locations.

NIPL has signed an agreement with Qatar National Bank (QNB), the largest financial institution in the Middle East and Africa, headquartered in Qatar, to launch QR code-based Unified Payments Interface (UPI) payments across the country. Implementation of this project is in progress. An MOU has been signed with the Maldives.

Tourism Expansion Activities

ED Division, in collaboration with state tourism departments, undertook initiatives to boost international tourism. An event was organised by FICCI in July on medical value tourism. In February, the ED Division participated in the International Health Dialogue, chaired by Minister of Health and Family Welfare and the EAM. In August, the ED Division participated in the meeting of the Budget Estimate Committee 2025-26 on medical tourism, where discussions revolved around policy incentives, infrastructure development and measures to position India as a global hub for affordable and high-quality healthcare, including initiatives such as Heal in India and Heal by India.

Health and Medical Value Travel

To increase medical value tourism in India, specific suggestions and inputs were shared with the Ministry of Health on region-specific demand from tourists. ED Division coordinated meetings on India–Saudi Arabia investment and exports in the pharmaceutical sector in January. Efforts were also made to get the Indian Pharmacopoeia recognised in various countries. Indian Pharmacopoeia was being accepted and recognised as a drug standard in seventeen countries of Latin America, the Caribbean, Africa and the Pacific regions.

Higher Educational Institutes (HEIs) Abroad

ED Division supported the setting up of IITs abroad under the New Education Policy through coordination with the Ministry of Education and the IIT Council. MoUs were entered into with the UAE for IIT Delhi, which opened its campus in Dubai, and with Tanzania for IIT Madras, which opened its campus in Zanzibar. Both IIT campuses started their operations. Efforts were underway to open IIT campuses in other countries.

Energy Security

ED Division facilitated engagements between line ministries and energy agencies, including the International Energy Agency and the International Renewable Energy Agency. The division is also a part of the group of line ministries, involved in pursuing the bilateral energy dialogues and improving institutional ties with various countries. ED Division, in coordination with the Ministry of Power and the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas, is working closely with the International Energy Agency's Secretariat towards attaining India's membership in the International Energy Agency.

Major Events Supported or Facilitated by ED Division (2025)

India Maritime Week 2025

India Maritime Week 2025, held from 27-30 October, witnessed participation from ministers of twelve countries: Singapore, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, Italy, Sri Lanka, Mauritius, Myanmar, the Maldives, Saudi Arabia, Liberia, and Antigua and Barbuda. Ministers participated in the IMW inaugural session, ministerial plenary, the Prime Minister's session on 29 October and various discussions. Bilateral meetings were held with the ministers of the Netherlands, Saudi Arabia, Sri Lanka, Myanmar, Norway, Italy and Singapore, focusing on cooperation in maritime connectivity, port development, shipbuilding, logistics and blue economy.



Prime Minister attended the Global Maritime Leaders Conclave and chaired the Global Maritime CEO Round Table, October 2025.

MoS (KVS) attended the event on 29 October and participated in the Global Maritime Leaders Conclave and the Global Maritime CEO Round Table, chaired by Prime Minister. Secretary (ER) attended the inaugural, ministerial plenary and other engagements involving partner countries. ED Division, MEA provided active support and coordinated the foreign engagement component of the IMW, both in the run-up to and during the event.

Start-up Mahakumbh

In Start-up Mahakumbh 2025, ED Division supported and facilitated the participation of foreign ambassadors at the precursor event on 6 March, and supported international linkages, stakeholder engagement, and collaboration during the main event on 3-5 April.

World Food India 2025

World Food India 2025, the flagship international event organised by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries to position India as a 'Global Food Hub,' was held on 25-28 September. The ED Division worked closely with MoFPI to facilitate international participation in the event.

Advantage Assam 2.0 and North-East Investors Summit

ED Division also supported state-level investment summits, including Advantage Assam 2.0, held on 25–26 February, and the North-East Investors Summit on 15 April. The Division facilitated the participation of Foreign Missions at these events, enabling diplomatic outreach and enhancing international investment opportunities in the states.

Vibrant Gujarat Ambassador Roundtable

On 4 September, the ED Division supported the Ambassador roundtable for the forthcoming Vibrant Gujarat Summit, facilitating participation and engagement of foreign resident Missions in New Delhi to promote investment and partnership opportunities.

Market Expansion Activities

Under the 'Market Expansion Activities' budget, the Ministry allocated financial resources to its Missions and Posts abroad to advance India's objectives in trade, tourism and technology and to enhance the global visibility of Indian business and industry. These funds enabled Missions to respond to trade and investment inquiries, assess economic and business environments in their host countries and undertake market intelligence and sectoral studies. They supported the organisation of business seminars, trade promotion events, investment roundtables and networking sessions with local chambers of commerce, industry associations and key stakeholders. For the current year, the ED Division allocated INR 9 crore towards these activities across various Missions and Posts worldwide.

Industrial Outreach, Investment Promotion and Publicity

During outgoing and incoming high-level visits, the ED Division mounted and organised business engagements to deepen trade and investment linkages. A business delegation accompanied the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji to Slovakia on 9-11 April. During the State Visit of Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam to India on 9-16 September, the Division organised the India-Mauritius Business Conclave in Mumbai on 10 September and a business event in Varanasi on 11 September.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji addressed the Slovakia-India Business Forum in Bratislava, April 2025.

A business interaction with Prime Minister of Sri Lanka Harini Amarasuriya, was held in New Delhi on 16 October, with the participation of leading Indian chambers. Within India, the Division supported major investment and sectoral events, including Advantage Assam 2.0, Bharat Mobility Global Expo, Startup Mahakumbh, the North-East Investors Summit Ambassadors' Meet and the CII Conference on MSMEs for World Food India 2025. It collaborated with the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways for the Ambassadors' Roundtable on 27 August and India Maritime Week 2025 on 27-31 October (Mumbai) to promote international engagement in the maritime and logistics sectors. The Division also worked closely with the Ministry of Mines on the National Critical Mineral Mission for securing supplies and technologies in coordination with Indian Missions and global stakeholders. Through these initiatives, the Division significantly deepened international economic engagement and promoted India's profile as a trusted global trade and investment partner.

Investment Treaties

India was actively engaged with various countries in negotiating investment treaties based on the new model BIT of 2015. India was negotiating investment treaties with over 15 countries. The MEA was a member of the Inter-Ministerial Group and an integral part of BIT negotiations, and provided requisite inputs. The ED Division is the nodal division in the Ministry of External Affairs for investment treaty and related matters, and it actively participated in investment treaty negotiations. It coordinated negotiations and provided requisite inputs from a policy, political and international law perspective. Correspondence about BIT with other countries was routed through the Ministry by means of Notes Verbale, etc.

India faced close to 40 investment treaty-related claims. The cases were at various stages, including some cases where awards had been rendered. There were close to 51 dispute notices by investors against India, of which India won four arbitrations, lost three arbitrations, resolved fourteen disputes amicably and had over six active disputes. ED Division, as part of the Inter-Ministerial Group of the Government of India, was actively involved at every stage of the disputes by providing necessary inputs, facilitating hearings and coordinating other related actions in these cases in foreign jurisdictions. These cases were before international tribunals seated abroad and involved questions of international law where the advice of the Ministry was sought. In 2025, one new notice of dispute was served on the Republic of India.

Social Security Agreements (SSAs)

Social Security Agreements were bilateral arrangements between India and partner countries that safeguarded the social security rights of workers moving across borders. These agreements addressed issues of 'no coverage' and 'double coverage' under social security systems, ensuring equal treatment for the workforce of both nations. SSAs offered tangible benefits to Indian professionals and skilled workers abroad by exempting them from dual social security contributions, allowing the totalisation of contribution periods across both countries and enabling the exportability of benefits upon relocation or return to India.

The Ministry of External Affairs served as the competent authority for negotiating and concluding these agreements, in coordination with the Ministry of Labour and Employment and the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, which functioned as the liaison agency for implementing SSA provisions.

India concluded 22 Social Security Agreements and negotiations were underway with more than 20 additional countries to further expand this network. Together, these efforts underscored India's commitment to promoting safe, orderly and mutually beneficial labour mobility, while ensuring the long-term social protection and welfare of Indian workers overseas.

Civil Aviation

The ED Division is the nodal division in the Ministry for all matters relating to Air Services Agreements with foreign countries and airlines, and worked closely with the Ministry of Civil Aviation on these matters. The Division also provided inputs on these issues and on the requirements of flight operations or code share to promote tourism and to strengthen bilateral and multilateral relations.

ICAO engagements

The elections for the ICAO Council were held during the 42nd Assembly Session in September. ED Division extended support for the ICAO elections, including an engagement with resident ambassadors on 2 September, with the objective of maximising support for India's candidature in the ICAO Council elections. India was re-elected to Part II of the ICAO Council by securing more votes than in the 2022 elections, reflecting growing confidence among member states in its leadership and commitment to international civil aviation. The ICAO audit was a significant milestone for India's civil aviation sector. Representing the MEA, the ED Division ensured comprehensive responses to all queries raised during the audit. Key issues related to international standards and practices were addressed, including efforts to demonstrate India's commitment to meeting global aviation norms.

Wings India

An international event dedicated to the civil aviation sector, the event brought together global leaders, policymakers, regulators, airline executives and industry stakeholders. ED Division closely coordinated with the Ministry of Civil Aviation in facilitating high-level ministerial conferences, CEO forums, exhibitions, and B2B/G2B/G2G meetings.

Bilateral talks on air service matters were held with China, Indonesia and Kuwait on capacity enhancements, designation of new carriers, increase of points of call and addition of new routes with a view to improving connectivity and economic activity.

Arbitration Cell

The Arbitration Cell in the ED Division handled various legal issues, including numerous arbitrations and litigations such as investment treaty disputes and related court proceedings, investment treaty negotiations, and work related to UNCITRAL and the Permanent Court of Arbitration. Apart from this, the Division handled various other commercial legal issues and legal aspects pertaining to the International Solar Alliance and the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure.

There were over 40 disputes as of date where India had been made a respondent State, and these investment treaty disputes involving India were at various stages, including some cases pending before arbitral tribunals and certain other cases at an advanced stage of enforcement of arbitral awards in various jurisdictions across the world.

Inputs to Various Boards and Committees

ED Division continued to actively serve on various boards and committees, providing strategic inputs on trade promotion, economic diplomacy and international collaboration. These included the India Trade Promotion Organisation, Invest India, the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade, the Engineering Export Promotion Council, the Project Export Promotion Council, the Export Promotion Council for EOUs and SEZs and Water and Power Consultancy Services (India) Limited. Through these arrangements, the

ED Division facilitated alignment between India's foreign policy objectives and export growth initiatives, contributing to enhanced global market access and investment inflows.

I2U2 (India, Israel, the UAE and the USA)

The I2U2 Group, comprising India, Israel, the United Arab Emirates and the United States, represented a forward-looking minilateral framework aimed at strengthening economic and technological cooperation among the four countries. The initiative sought to promote joint investments in six mutually identified priority sectors: water, energy, transportation, space, health and food security, to mobilise private sector capital and expertise to modernise infrastructure, decarbonise industries, enhance public health and support innovation in emerging and green technologies.

During the year, the I2U2 partners continued regular consultations to expand cooperation under this framework, identifying new areas of collaboration and reinforcing coordination on projects of mutual interest. The grouping underscored the shared commitment of the four nations to sustainable economic growth, innovation and regional stability, leveraging their complementary strengths to deliver tangible and high-impact outcomes.

World Economic Forum (WEF)

ED Division extended support to India's participation in the World Economic Forum's annual meeting, held on 20-24 January in Davos-Klosters, Switzerland, under the theme 'Collaboration for the Intelligent Age.' The Division coordinated with key participating ministries – Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Education, Electronics and IT, Civil Aviation, Jal Shakti, and Food Processing Industries – to project India's initiatives. The Division facilitated inter-ministerial coordination, international outreach and follow-up on India's engagement at WEF, aligning India's external economic diplomacy with global priorities on workforce readiness, human capital investment and future skills development.

International Solar Alliance

The International Solar Alliance aimed to contribute to the implementation of the Paris Agreement by bringing together countries to address the main obstacles in the massive deployment of solar energy in terms of technology, finance and capacity. In 2025, Angola, Vietnam and Mongolia signed the ISA Framework Agreements. Instruments of Ratification/ Accession for ISA Framework Agreements were received from Romania, Kuwait, Moldova, Dominican Republic, Lebanon, Qatar, Luxembourg and Vietnam during the year. In total, 126 countries have signed the Framework Agreement of the ISA, out of which 112 have also ratified the Framework Agreement.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji delivered the keynote address at the eighth General Assembly of ISA in New Delhi, October 2025

ED Division, being the depository of ISA, coordinated with the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (the nodal ministry) and the ISA Secretariat and facilitated the organisation of the eighth General Assembly of ISA in New Delhi on 28 October. It was chaired by the Minister of New and Renewable Energy and co-chaired by Special Envoy for Climate Negotiations, French Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs Benoit Faraco. Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji delivered the keynote address. Secretary (ER) presented the Depository Report on expanding membership of the ISA. There was participation of over 30 ministers and vice-ministers, and representatives of about 137 countries and 36 organisations. During the Assembly, ISA amended the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, thereby enabling prospective countries to become members of ISA through accession.

Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)

CDRI functioned as an inclusive multi-stakeholder partnership where knowledge was generated and exchanged on different aspects of disaster resilience of infrastructure. The coordination efforts between the ED Division and CDRI were intended to engage additional members, countries and international organisations, representing varied geographic and socio-economic contexts, disaster risk profiles, as well as capacities to mitigate and adapt to climate change and disasters.

As of 29 October, the Coalition's membership had grown to 51 national governments and 10 international organisations. Costa Rica was the latest country to join CDRI. India and France, as co-chairs of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, extended joint demarches to 14 countries in Africa and South-East Asia, inviting them to join the Coalition.

CDRI organised its annual International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (ICDRI) 2025 on 6-7 June in Nice, France, under the theme 'Shaping a Resilient Future for Coastal Regions,' which brought together over 300 participants from 53 countries, including 49 representatives from 20 Small Island Developing States. The Conference played a pivotal role in advancing global dialogue on building resilience in coastal regions, with a special focus on small island developing states, supporting their efforts to address climate-induced hazards while promoting economic stability and ecological sustainability.

Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA)

The Global Biofuels Alliance, a multi-stakeholder alliance, was launched during India's G20 Presidency by Prime Minister, along with leaders of eight other countries (Argentina, Bangladesh, Brazil, Italy, Mauritius, Singapore, the UAE and the USA) on 9 September 2023 as the chair's initiative. GBA intended to address challenges related to feedstock availability, developing policy frameworks, streamlining biomass supply chains and encouraging financing and investment in biofuel production, including promoting clean cooking. GBA worked towards defining common technical standards, quality standardisation and uniform certification to encourage global uptake of biofuels.

Since its launch, GBA has made considerable progress, expanding membership to 32 member countries and 14 international organisations. This expansion represented endorsement of GBA's role in the biofuels sector by the international community.

On 11 October 2024, the Government of the Republic of India and GBA signed the Host Country Agreement, facilitating GBA to set up its physical Secretariat in India and provide necessary legal status to GBA, including immunities and privileges under the United Nations (Privileges and Immunities) Act, 1947. The HCA entered into force on 23 November 2024 after completion of internal legal procedures by both parties.

United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL)

The ED Division participated in the UNCITRAL General Assembly session and in the six UNCITRAL Working Groups. In July, UNCITRAL held its 58th

Annual Commission Session, which was attended by representatives of the ED Division and the L&T Division, of this Ministry. In this session, the Commission finalised work on (i) the draft convention on negotiable cargo documents, (ii) a draft toolkit for expedited asset tracing and recovery in insolvency proceedings and (iii) draft background notes on asset tracing and recovery in insolvency proceedings. Between September and December, all six working groups resumed discussions on outstanding legislative documents.

Under Working Group I on Warehouse Receipts, UNCITRAL finalised and adopted the UNCITRAL-UNIDROIT Model Law on Warehouse Receipts, and approved in principle the draft guide to enactment in 2024. The Commission is expected to formalise further discussions on the topic as the agenda of the working group was achieved in 2024.

Under Working Group II on Dispute Settlement, which deliberated on UNCITRAL model clauses on SPEDR, the Working Group finalised the clauses along with draft explanatory notes and held a two-day colloquium, after which it preliminarily considered recognition and enforcement of electronic awards.

Under Working Group III on Investor-State Dispute Settlement Reform, deliberations continued on the draft statute of a standing mechanism for the resolution of international investment disputes and on procedural and cross-cutting issues; a multilateral instrument on ISDS reform was also considered.

Under Working Group IV on Electronic Commerce, the Working Group continued work on default rules on data provision contracts under the mandate given at UNCITRAL's 55th session and reviewed the guide to enactment of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Automated Contracting.

Under Working Group V on Insolvency Law, the Working Group adopted the text on asset tracing and recovery in insolvency proceedings and a draft toolkit for expedited asset tracing and recovery in insolvency proceedings. The Working Group considered new topics, including climate change and insolvency proceedings.

Under Working Group VI on Negotiable Cargo Documents, the Working Group adopted the negotiable cargo documents instrument.

Permanent Court of Arbitration

The Permanent Court of Arbitration, an intergovernmental organisation headquartered at The Hague, has had India as a member since 1950. India had signed a Host Country Agreement with PCA in 2008 to set up a permanent facility in India. Steps were taken towards opening a Permanent Regional Facility of the PCA in India. Discussions on the Memorandum of Understanding (which implements the Host Country Agreement) between MEA and PCA on the PCA regional facility were held during the year. The handing over process of the PCA regional facility is at an advanced stage.

CHAPTER

17

Counter Terrorism

India has been at the forefront of global efforts to counter terrorism. The topic of counter terrorism found prominent mention in bilateral and multilateral meetings at all levels during the year. India has Joint Working Groups on Counter Terrorism (JWG-CT) with 26 countries. India has also been engaging with regional and multilateral bodies such as BIMSTEC, G20, ASEAN Regional Forum, SCO, BRICS, EU, FATF and the Quad on Counter Terrorism.

It was imperative for India to send a clear, strong and resolute message after the Pahalgam terrorist attack in Jammu and Kashmir on 22 April. Accordingly, India responded through Operation Sindoor, hitting terrorist infrastructure at nine sites in Pakistan and Pakistan-occupied Jammu and Kashmir. India's action through Operation Sindoor was measured, non-escalatory, proportionate and responsible. India's approach earned strong backing from the international community and they supported India's actions to punish the perpetrators of cross-border terrorism as a right to self-defence.

Bilateral Engagements (JWG on CT)

During the year, India held Joint Working Group meetings on Counter Terrorism (JWG- CT) with Italy (16-17 January), Tanzania (12-13 February), Egypt (30 April), European Union (9 September), France (11 September), Uzbekistan (30 September-1 October) Australia (Canberra, 29-30 October), Germany (New Delhi, 27 November), USA (New Delhi, 3 December) and Malaysia (New Delhi, 10 December).

Regional Engagements

During the year, India held two Working Group meetings on Counter Terrorism (CTWG) with multilateral groups including the BRICS and Quad and one Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC) with the ASEAN.

ASEAN

India participated in the 12th ASEAN Senior Officials Meeting on Transnational Crime (SOMTC)+India

Consultation held on 25 June in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

BRICS

India participated in the 10th Annual BRICS Counter Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Plenary and its Sub-Groups' Meetings held from 4-6 June in Brasília, Brazil.



India and the USA held the 21st Meeting of the Joint Working Group (JWG) on Counter Terrorism (CT) and the 7th Designations Dialogue in New Delhi, December 2025.

European Union (EU)

From 13-15 October, India hosted the European Union (EU), at the National Security Guard (NSG) campus in Manesar, for a first-of-its-kind Joint Counter Terrorism training program focused on emerging threats posed by Unmanned Aerial Systems (UAS).

Multilateral Engagements

NMFT

India participated in the fourth 'No Money for Terror' ministerial conference held in Munich, Germany on 13 February. India hosted the 3rd NMFT ministerial conference in New Delhi on 18-19 November 2022.

FATF

The Financial Action Task Force (FATF) Plenary and Working Group meetings were held in Paris, France from 17-21 February and FATF/MONEYVAL Joint Plenary Week and Technical Assistance Peer-Learning Meeting for Donors, Providers and the Global Network were held on 10-14 June in Strasbourg, France.

India participated in the FATF Plenary and Working Group Meetings, held in Paris, France from 20-24 October.

EAG

India participated in the 42nd EAG Plenary Meeting held on 29-30 May in Moscow, Russia.

India participated in the 43rd Plenary and Working Group meetings of the Eurasian Group on Combating Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism (EAG) held in Minsk, Belarus from 24-28 November.

Quad

India hosted two Quad workshops/seminars on 'countering use of unmanned aerial vehicles and drones for terrorist purposes' on 23-24 September and 'preventing terrorist exploitation of new and emerging technologies' on 26 September respectively. India hosted the third Quad Counterterrorism Working Group (CTWG) meeting and Table Top Exercise with QUAD partners - Japan, Australia, and the United States of America, in New Delhi from 4-5 December, as part of India's rotation to host the next QUAD Summit.

GCTF

India participated in the 25th Global Counter Terrorism Forum (GCTF) Coordinating Committee Meeting and its Working Group meetings, held from 20-22 October in Doha, Qatar.

CHAPTER

18

Development Cooperation

DPA I

Development partnership is an important pillar of India's foreign policy. India has been sharing its resources, expertise, and skills with its partner countries over the years. India's model of development cooperation is demand-driven and is strongly rooted in the principles of non-interference and mutual benefit. Government of India-supported Lines of Credit have resulted in impactful projects of scale in several countries across the neighbourhood, Africa, and Latin America and the Caribbean. Lines of Credit have played an important role in strengthening India's partnership with countries in the Global South.

Lines of Credit

Lines of Credit (LoC), which are concessional loans offered to partner countries, are governed by the Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS) of the Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, last amended in 2022.

This year saw the signing of new LoCs with Maldives, Mongolia, and Mauritius.

In July, during the Prime Minister's State Visit to Maldives, an Indian Rupee-denominated LoC agreement was signed with Maldives. The credit line of INR 4850 crore was extended to finance various development projects in Maldives. This marked the second Rupee LoC extended by India for project financing under the Indian Development and Economic Assistance Scheme (IDEAS), following the first ever INR LoC signed with Mauritius in March 2025. The LoC funded a water pipeline replacement project worth INR 487.60 crore. Additionally, during the Prime Minister of Mauritius' State Visit to India in September, a Special Economic Package, including an INR LoC, was announced.

An additional LoC of USD 700 million to Mongolia was signed in January to finance Package IV of the Oil Refinery Project. This is the single-largest project supported by India under IDEAS, with an overall allocation of USD 1.692 billion. A composite

Government of India delegation, led by the Special Secretary and Financial Advisor, visited Mongolia from 12-15 May to undertake a detailed project review with all key stakeholders.

During Prime Minister's State Visit to Bhutan in November, an INR LoC of 4000 crore was offered for undertaking energy projects. This is the first Line of Credit extended to Bhutan by India under IDEAS.

In December, during EAM's visit to Sri Lanka, INR LoCs were also announced as part of a Special Economic Package for reconstruction and rehabilitation post cyclone Ditwah.

Debt Relief

Demonstrating India's continued commitment to assist Sri Lanka in its economic recovery, India concluded the debt restructuring process with Sri Lanka in April, with the exchange of bilateral amendatory agreements.

During the State Visit of the Prime Minister to Maldives in July, an amendatory agreement was signed to enable a reduction in the annual debt repayment obligations of Maldives to Exim Bank of India by around 40 percent.

Projects completed/commissioned in 2025

India has completed several infrastructure projects in partner countries across the globe. Some of the key LoC projects completed this year include:

Guyana: Phase-I of the East Coast-East Bank road linkage project (partially financed through a Government of India-supported credit line of USD 50 million) was commissioned by the President of Guyana on 30 June. EAM addressed the inaugural ceremony through a video message. The East Coast-East Bank linkage project is a vital arterial road that will improve connectivity and provide a strong boost to the infrastructural development in Guyana.

Nicaragua: A transmission line and substation project under the Government of India-supported Line of Credit of USD 31.29 million was commissioned on 24 September. MoS (PM) addressed the event through a video message. The project provides reliable power supply to the rural communities in Nicaragua.

Maldives: The Addu City development project, valued at USD 160 million, was inaugurated during the State Visit of the Prime Minister to Maldives in July. The project includes the construction and upgradation of more than 120 km of road network, installation of CCTVs, street lighting, and a drainage system in the city of Addu in Maldives.

Under a Fisheries Expansion Project valued at USD 21.98 million, a 50-tonne ice plant in Gemanafushi was inaugurated in February. The facility includes a 100 MT storage capacity, further supporting the local fishing industry.

The Hanimadhoo International Airport Project was jointly inaugurated by the President of Maldives and the Minister of Civil Aviation on 09 November. The project valued at USD 132 million is expected to further boost domestic as well as international air connectivity of Maldives.



The Hanimadhoo International Airport, funded under India-supported LoC worth USD 132 million was inaugurated in Maldives, November 2025

Mauritius: The 8 MW solar plant at Henrietta Falls, financed under an LoC of USD 7.52 million, was handed over to Mauritius in March. The solar plant is running at 120 percent capacity, contributing significantly to Mauritius' renewable energy needs.

Cameroon: A Cassava Plantation Project, financed under the Government of India-supported LoC of USD 42 million, was completed in April. The project further strengthens food security in Cameroon.

Projects Under Implementation

This year, regular project review meetings, country-level bilateral LoC review meetings, and bi-annual portfolio reviews were conducted to actively monitor LoC projects. These included: Bilateral LoC Review Meetings and site visits to Maldives, Rwanda, Bangladesh, Mauritius, Nepal, Tanzania, Mongolia, Côte d'Ivoire, Lao PDR, Cuba, Guyana, Nicaragua and ECOWAS Bank for Investment and Development.

At the directive of Government of India, Exim Bank appointed Lender's Engineer for better monitoring of projects in Bangladesh, Maldives, Mongolia, Mozambique and Nepal.

Some of the major projects expected to be completed over 2026 include the upgradation of airports in Maldives; power transmission projects in Togo and the Democratic Republic of Congo; irrigation and water supply projects in Benin and Côte d'Ivoire; construction of the forensic science lab project in Mauritius, etc.

Events

As part of India's initiative to explore new and innovative models of project financing abroad including 'Aid to Investment' models, the Ministry engaged a wide variety of stakeholders, including public sector banks, NBFCs, companies, private equity firms, CDRI, ISA, World Bank / MIGA, IFSCA, GIFT City, NIIF, resident Missions in Delhi, Indian Missions abroad etc. The most recent meeting, held in July in Delhi, was chaired by Secretary (Economic Relations) and was attended by more than 110 participants.

The inaugural conference of the Quad Ports of the Future Partnership (PFP) was held on 29-30 October in Mumbai on the margins of the India Maritime Week (27-31 October). The Conference saw robust participation from around 120 delegates from 24 Indo-Pacific partner countries. Thematic panel discussions centred on advancing a shared Quad vision for resilient, secure and future-ready ports; strengthening collaboration on infrastructure, financing, regulatory frameworks, workforce development, technology, digital ecosystems, cybersecurity and sustainability were held. The conference officially launched the Quad PFP – announced in the Quad Leaders' Statement in September 2024. The initiative aims to leverage the Quad's collective expertise to coordinate efforts, exchange best practices, and mobilise public and private investments towards quality port development across the Indo-Pacific.

DPA II

Within the DPA, the DPA-II Division is designated to carry out development partnerships through capacity-building initiatives. Apart from the flagship ITEC scheme (which provides fully funded training opportunities at eminent Indian training institutions for government professionals), DPA-II Division also carries out capacity building initiatives in the form of foreign deployment of Indian experts, IT-related trainings through the establishment of Centres of Excellence in IT (CEIT) projects, and the organisation of artificial limb fitment camps.

During the year, DPA II Division implemented capacity-building solutions for India's developing partner countries by delivering nearly 14,000 training opportunities to government and security professionals from nearly 114 countries. As of November, close to 4000 professionals have availed themselves of these training opportunities. In addition to training, the Division also conducted four artificial limb fitment camps and administered the deployment of experts abroad as part of its mandate.

Capacity Building through Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC)

The ITEC scheme provides fully funded training opportunities in eminent Indian training institutions for government professionals-civilian, defence and paramilitary, of the Global South countries. Courses are offered both on a multi-country basis and on a country-specific, customised basis.

With a robust domestic training landscape, ITEC offers courses ranging from conventional development subjects like agriculture and entrepreneurship to advanced technology-oriented subjects like AI,

biotechnology and cyber. Over the years, the ITEC scheme has not only become a visible tool of India's bilateral diplomacy but also a recognised name in the global capacity-building landscape. ITEC training courses are designed as short, residential, immersive programmes with both classroom and experiential content, supplemented by cultural exposure to India's vibrant cultural landscape. Government professionals interested in availing of ITEC training apply through Indian embassies and must be nominated by their governments to participate in these courses.

During the year, on the civilian side, a total of 250 menu-based/multi-country and more than 100 single-country/customised courses have been approved for implementation. These include courses for packages like Sagar Amrut (for Pacific Island countries) and the Quad Infrastructure Fellowship (for Indo-Pacific countries).

Defence-related training for friendly foreign countries (FFC) is provided under the Defence-ITEC modality. On the defence side, 3900+ slots were offered under Defence-ITEC modality in various defence courses at the 100+ defence training institutes of the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard. These courses are implemented in partnership with the Ministry of Defence (MoD). In particular, 41 slots have been offered to 33 countries for the prestigious, year-long course on 'National Security and Strategic Studies' at National Defence College (NDC), New Delhi. Similar high-value/defence management courses are also provided at prestigious institutions such as the College of Defence Management, Secunderabad; the Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), Wellington; the Military Institute of Technology (MILIT); and the National Defence Academy (NDA), Pune.

An emerging aspect of the ITEC capacity building involves training police and armed paramilitary forces, particularly in neighbouring countries, through a dedicated ITEC-Security programme. Under this modality, administration of the course has been both simplified for ease of participation and adapted for meeting security protocols. High-value courses at prestigious institutions like the National Police Academy and National Security Guard (NSG) are provided along with tactical courses at training institutions catering to disaster relief, intelligence, detective training, forensic analysis and border management. In the current financial year, close to 38 courses are being conducted for training approximately 1000 force personnel.

In order to provide policy-oriented and experiential training for senior-level officials, the DPA II Division regularly organises high-value training courses under the ITEC-Executive modality. During this year, two courses in this format have been conducted to date, with another three to four courses likely to be conducted till March 2026. These include a joint civilian and military course called the International Strategic Engagement Programme (INSTEP) by NDC; courses for wildlife and conservation practitioners at Nagarhole and Bandipur Tiger Reserve through the International Big Cat Alliance, and courses on human rights by the NHRC.



The National Human Rights Commission (NHRC), in partnership with the Ministry organised ITEC Executive Capacity Building programme on human rights for senior-level functionaries of NHRIs of the Global South, September 2025

To broaden the reach of the ITEC scheme, the ITEC-Professional modality has been introduced to engage regulated professionals in banking/medical/legal and corporate/accountancy sectors. During this year, Institute of Company Secretaries of India (ICSI) was onboarded to provide courses for company secretaries/ legal compliance officials.

Under the 'India-UN Capacity Building Initiative for Global South', triangular format capacity building courses are being implemented for countries of the Global South in partnership with UN agencies active in India and eminent ITEC partner institutes. This initiative was formally launched in August with four courses to be implemented by CDAC-New Delhi (on health informatics), NIESBUD(on technical and vocational education), NIFTEM (on food fortification) and NSSTA (on census statistics).

In December, the ITEC program was expanded by sanctioning 46 additional short-term civilian courses. This update added 1,380 slots to the current financial year. These included menu-based courses as well as customised courses, based on the specific requirements of the partner countries. With these additions, the total approved ITEC courses for the current year have reached 350 courses and 10,630 slots.

India's sustained capacity building partnership over the years has built a sizeable global alumni. Since its inception in 1964, it is estimated that over four lakh professionals have been trained under ITEC. A large portion of this figure-close to 75,000-who have been trained since 2014, remain active as alumni, and are an important source of engagement for Missions. To further our engagement with these alumni, missions in ITEC partner countries commemorate ITEC Day on or around 15 September each year. The Division provides a dedicated amount for supporting ITEC Day events/outreach. For this year, INR 4.39 crore was sanctioned for 111 Missions towards ITEC Day, while this year, INR 4.4 crore was sanctioned for 112 Missions (latest addition being Bolivia).

ITEC-Experts and ITEC-Onsite

Capacity building support abroad through foreign deputation of Indian experts is also carried out by the DPA II Division under the ITEC Scheme. In the current financial year, experts deployed include: one professor from Pondicherry University as Advisor to DG, Civil Service College, Mauritius; and one professor from Central Sanskrit University as a Sanskrit cum Hindi faculty member at the University of Fiji. In addition, requests are underway for the selection of a Vice Chancellor to Atal Bihari Vajpayi Institute of Public Service and Innovation, Mauritius; for a sugar industry expert to Fiji and for AYUSH sector professionals to Malaysia. Defence/military experts deployed abroad include Indian Military Training Team (IMTT) teams deployed in Seychelles and Uganda; Indian Army Training Team (IATT) to Kazakhstan and Tanzania; experts to Mauritius Gallery Range and Afloat Support Team (AST)to Seychelles.

DPA II Division also provides capacity-building support abroad through institutions via the ITEC-Onsite modality. Conservation experts from Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) are being deployed in Laos PDR and Cambodia for the assessment of damaged murals at important heritage sites in these countries.

Other activities of the Division

In addition to the above, DPA II Division is the administrative division for implementing Centre of Excellence in IT (CEIT) projects, under which the implementing agency C-DAC operates IT training centres abroad; and the 'India for Humanity' scheme, under which funds are provided to the implementing agency Bhagwan Mahavir Viklang Sahayta Samiti (BMVSS) for conduct of artificial limb fitment camps.

A total of 58 CEIT projects in 47 countries have been implemented to date, with nearly two lakh trainees being trained in subjects like high-performance computing, AI/ML and big data. Currently, CEIT projects are operational in Vanuatu, the Solomon Islands, and Argentina. Training support is being provided for centres in Jordan and Tanzania. C-DAC is also supporting the upgradation of the CEIT established in Kazakhstan. New projects are being considered for implementation in Egypt, Benin, Paraguay, Suriname, and Timor-Leste.

A total of 35 artificial limbs fitment camps, fitted approximate 20,000 limbs, have been organised by BMVSS under 'India for Humanity' programme in the countries viz Vietnam, Myanmar, Malawi, Iraq, Kathmandu, Egypt, Senegal, Tanzania, Namibia,

Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Syria, Uganda, Djibouti, Sri Lanka, Equatorial Guinea, South Sudan, Fiji, Lebanon, Cambodia, Palestine, Mongolia, Madagascar, and Papua New Guinea. This year, camps were organised in Afghanistan, Myanmar, Nicaragua, Mozambique and Trinidad and Tobago.

DPA-III

Inspired by the philosophy of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam', India's international development cooperation has expanded significantly in recent years in its geographical reach as well as in the areas of cooperation. Given the focus of India's external engagement on its immediate and extended neighbourhood, supported by the 'Neighbourhood First' and 'Act East' policies, a majority of development projects are being implemented in these regions.

As the Development Partnership Administration (DPA) arm of the Ministry has gained experience over the years, the sustainability of projects, besides project delivery and implementation, has received increased attention. India's development partnership model has received a high degree of acceptance from its partners due to its demand-driven nature and the focus on keeping the requirements and priorities of the partner country at the heart of projects executed abroad.

India's development partnerships have extended to new areas of focus, such as Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), healthcare, public transport, renewable energy, and small and medium enterprises, based on the priorities of the partner countries involved. Further, India's developmental partnership portfolio continues to intensify with new projects in the neighbourhood, which also extends to Africa, Latin America and the Caribbean region, West Asia and Oceania.

India's development assistance has been a major catalyst for the creation of much-needed infrastructure in partner countries, such as railway links, roads and bridges, waterways, border-related infrastructure, transmission lines, power generation, hydropower and also extends to socio-economic areas such as healthcare, education, and housing.

IIFCL Projects Limited (IPL), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Ministry of Finance (MoF), has been engaged for setting up the Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) in the Ministry. The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between IPL and the Ministry was signed on 21 February for setting up the PMU, which will be responsible for providing technical and administrative support in the implementation of development projects handled by the DPA Divisions of the Ministry.

Afghanistan

India has been a steadfast partner in reconstruction and development efforts in Afghanistan despite serious security challenges. The principal focus of India's development assistance to Afghanistan has been to build the capacities of Afghan nationals and their institutions for governance and delivery of public service, develop socio-economic infrastructure, secure lives and promote livelihoods.

Some of the key Indian projects in Afghanistan are the Parliament Building in Kabul (2015), and the Afghan India Friendship Dam, earlier known as Salma Dam (2016), which underline India's commitment to the rebuilding of a united, democratic and prosperous Afghanistan. Both countries together launched the 'New Development Partnership' in September 2017 to further enhance India's development assistance to Afghanistan.

India supported High Impact Community Development Projects (HICDPs) spread across all 34 provinces of Afghanistan by extending grant assistance. Since 2005, three phases of community-based projects funded by Indian grants and covering areas like agriculture, education, labour, rural development and public health have been implemented by the Afghan government agencies, thus building local capacity towards project management. Under Phases one and two implemented during 2005-2009, USD 20 million was provided for undertaking 116 projects. Under the third phase, launched in 2012, funding of USD 100 million was provided for 420 projects, of which 350 have been completed. At the 2020 Afghanistan Conference held in Geneva in November

2020, EAM announced the launch of the fourth phase of HICDPs with grant assistance of USD 80 million for implementing around 100 new projects in Afghanistan. India also supplied 75,000 MT of wheat to Afghanistan as humanitarian assistance despite challenges caused by COVID-19.

Support for education and capacity-building programmes is an important aspect of India's development partnership with Afghanistan. Under the Special Scholarship Scheme for Afghan Nationals (SSSAN) administered by the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), 1000 annual scholarship slots are provided to Afghan students for studying at universities and institutes across India. Since 2006, more than 10,000 Afghan students have been trained under this scheme. In addition, another 500 scholarship slots are provided for children/dependents of martyrs of the Afghan National Defence and Security Forces and 614 fellowships for Agricultural studies, administered through the Department of Agricultural Research and Education and the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

India also supported the establishment of the Afghanistan National Agriculture Sciences and Technology University (ANASTU) in Kandahar, which is the first university of its kind in Afghanistan, through post-graduate courses for Afghan students. Online teaching of the new batches of M.Sc. started from 30 April in Agronomy, Horticulture, Plant Protection, Agricultural Economics, and Livestock Production & Management. Till date, seven batches in four courses of Agronomy, Horticulture, Plant Protection, and Animal Husbandry have been completed under the ANASTU programme. India extends support for scholarship programmes to students presently enrolled in Indian Universities. As part of the ongoing healthcare cooperation with Afghanistan, India gifted 15 Basic Life Support (BLS) and five Advanced Life Support (ALS) ambulances to Afghanistan as a special gesture. A symbolic handover of five ALS ambulances was done by EAM following his meeting with the Foreign Minister of Afghanistan Amir Khan Muttaqi on 10 October in New Delhi.

Myanmar

India is executing two major road connectivity projects in Myanmar, which aim to strengthen regional connectivity by building the road network between Myanmar and the North-Eastern States of India. Under the Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project (KMMTTP), an international port has been built at Sittwe in Myanmar. The stretch of the Kaladan River connecting Sittwe Port with Paletwa has been developed for navigation, and an Inland Water terminal has been established at Paletwa. Sittwe Port was inaugurated in May 2023 and is now operational. However, due to the ongoing security situation, inland waterways from Sittwe to Paletwa are not in operation. Operation and Maintenance (O&M) operations at Sittwe Port are currently being undertaken by India Ports Global Limited (IPGL), a wholly owned subsidiary of the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, since April 2024. Work is also ongoing to build a road between Paletwa and Zorinpui on the India-Myanmar border.

India has supported the implementation of the India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT) Trilateral Highway, including the upgrade of the Kalewa-Yagyi road section and the 69 bridges (Tamu-Kyigone-Kalewa section). Once completed, the Trilateral Highway will provide seamless connectivity for the North Eastern states of India with Myanmar, Thailand and other ASEAN countries and facilitate the movement of goods and traffic. Besides, the connectivity project will also facilitate India’s economic and cultural ties and strengthen bilateral and multilateral relations with Southeast Asian neighbours. The completed segment of 52 km between 60 km to 112 km of the Kalewa-Yagyi Road section of the India-Myanmar-Thailand Trilateral Highway was handed over to the Government of Myanmar in October.

India also provided support for capacity building projects in Myanmar, namely the establishment of the Myanmar Institute of Information Technology (MIIT) in Mandalay, the India Myanmar Centre for Enhancement of IT Skills (IMCEITS) in Yangon and the Advanced

Centre for Agricultural Research and Education (ACARE) near Naypyidaw. India also provided 10,000 MT of rice and 200 MT of wheat in 2022 as humanitarian assistance. Government of India has been assisting the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar (GoM) in establishing and running the IMCEITS in Yangon since 2008. Since its inception, 2839 students have graduated from IMCEITS, benefiting the region by creating skilled manpower and capacity building for employment generation.

Furthermore, IMCEITS has made a significant impact by producing industry-ready IT specialists employed by both local and international companies. Five Master Trainers from IMCEITS, Yangon, are undergoing six months advanced Post Graduate Diploma Courses, which commenced on 21 August at C-DAC in Pune. Graduates hold positions such as Software Engineer, Network Engineer, Mobile Developer, System Administrator, Multimedia Specialist, and Operation/ Project Manager. The project has been appreciated by GoM and the population alike for its positive impact and benefits, as outlined above.

India also provided 10,000 MTs of rice and 200 MTs of wheat in 2022 as humanitarian assistance. Several books on advanced Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics and Economics for use by graduate and research students of Naypyitaw State Academy were handed over, as a grant-in-aid support, in the presence of Deputy Education Minister U Nay Myo Hlaing, on 19 September. Keeping in view the needs of the Indian diaspora in Myanmar, the supply of cremation machines to the Hindu community in Myanmar is in process.

Nepal

India-Nepal developmental partnership is all encompassing including both infrastructure and supply projects in areas of railways, road, electricity transmission lines, police training and vocational training. India is undertaking the development of rail links with Nepal to enhance the ease of movement of people and goods. Under the first phase, Jayanagar-Bardibas Rail Link (68.72 kms) and Jogbani-Biratnagar Rail Link (18.60 kms) are being developed at an estimated cost of around Rs. 950 crores. The Jaynagar to Kurtha rail section (34km), which is the first broad gauge passenger rail line in Nepal has been completed and flagged off by the Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister of Nepal virtually on 2 April 2022. The Kurtha-Bijalpura section is physically complete and was handed over to Nepal on 29 May 2023. Consequently, train operations were inaugurated on 15 July 2023. Under the Jogbani-Biratnagar Rail Link project, Bathnaha (India) to Nepal Custom Yard was inaugurated by both Prime Ministers on 1 June 2023. Also, the Final Location Survey for construction of a new electrified rail line connecting Raxaul to Kathmandu has been completed by Konkan Railway Corporation Limited (KRCL) and the survey report was handed over at the Prime Minister level in June 2023.

India has completed the construction of three Integrated Check Posts (ICPs) at Birgunj, Biratnagar and Nepalgunj in Nepal along the India-Nepal Border to facilitate trade and movement of goods and traffic. These were handed over to the Government of Nepal in 2018, 2020 and 2024, respectively. The development of ICP Bhairahawa is currently underway and is expected to be completed and handed over to the Government of Nepal in 2026.

To facilitate integrated customs and immigration services, a decision has been taken to construct another ICP - the fifth along the India-Nepal international border at Dodhara Chandani as the western link for Nepal. It will provide direct access to India's northern and western states as well as to Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust in Mumbai. Government of India is funding the establishment of a National Police Academy (NPA) at Panauti, Nepal, which commenced in 2022. NPA is one of the largest projects to be fully funded by the Government of India under the Grant-in-aid. The academy is planned to replace the existing, smaller police academy to become a state-of-the-art training hub for Nepal Police personnel with multiple buildings, including training, residential and administrative structures. It is expected to be completed by March 2026.

India is also in the process of supplying 20 Electric Buses to Nepal. Government of India will supply over 500 vehicles to assist the Government of Nepal in conducting general elections.

Bangladesh

India has completed the construction of the Akhaura-Agartala Rail Link, which connects the existing station of Agartala in India to the Gangasagar station in Bangladesh. Bangladesh's portion of the project was jointly inaugurated by the Prime Minister and his counterpart, the then Prime Minister of Bangladesh, on 1 November 2023. During the COVID-19 pandemic, India also supplied 109 ambulances to Bangladesh in various hospitals as a humanitarian gesture.

Sri Lanka

India's development assistance in Sri Lanka extends to a wide spectrum of projects including infrastructure projects. A modern state-of-the-art Cultural Centre has been constructed at Jaffna under the India-Sri Lanka development partnership. The Cultural Centre includes a two storied museum, a 12-storied learning tower, an auditorium block, a public square and a floating stage for cultural performances. The project was inaugurated by EAM on 28 March 2022. Earlier, India had helped establish an island-wide Emergency Ambulance Service with a total of 209 ambulances in Sri Lanka during 2018 -2019.

A prime example of this development assistance is the flagship grant-in aid initiative by the Government of India to construct or renovate houses for Sri Lankans. The overall aim of the Indian Housing Project is to provide sustainable houses to Internally Displaced Persons and Indian-Origin Tamils. Phases three and four of the Indian Housing Project are currently underway. Under Phase three, 4,000 houses have been constructed under a community-driven approach in the Central, Uva and Southern Provinces by India. Under Phase four, a total of 10,000 houses are proposed to be built across Northwest, Central, Uva, Southern, Western and other provinces. Of the 10,000 houses, construction of 1300 houses is in progress. Stage two of Phase four was launched on 12 October, in which the Sri Lankan government plans to cover 4,700 beneficiaries. Out of these 4700 beneficiaries, 2000 have received their house ownership certificates by December.



India launched the construction of 10,000 houses under Phase IV of the Indian Housing Project to be built across Northwest, Central, Uva, Southern, Western and other provinces of Sri Lanka, October 2025

Maldives

India and Maldives have a growing development partnership involving both grant and LoC assistance. The new Ministry of Defence building for Maldives was jointly inaugurated by the Prime Minister and the President of Maldives Mohamed Muizzu on 25 July. The Construction of the National College for Policing and Law Enforcement (NCPLE) in Maldives has been completed and the project was inaugurated by EAM on 27 March 2022. India provided grant for construction of additional facilities at the Composite Training Centre at Maafilaafushi Island built up with India's assistance.

The construction work on the India-supported Greater Malé Connectivity Project, through a grant of USD 100 million and a LoC of USD 400 million, is progressing at a rapid pace. The foundation of the project was jointly laid by the Prime Minister and the then President of Maldives Ibrahim Mohamed Solih in August 2022. The Greater Malé Connectivity Project (GMCP) involves the construction of bridge and causeway links between the Islands of Villingili, Gulhifalhu and Thilafushi with Malé. As the largest infrastructure project to be undertaken in the country, it will become an economic lifeline and a force multiplier for Maldives once completed.

Mauritius

India has been providing development assistance to Mauritius in various sectors, including infrastructure, health, education and capacity building. Under its assistance programme, India has extended a grant of USD 353 million as a Special Economic Package to Mauritius in 2016, for implementation of six projects in Mauritius, namely, Metro Express (USD 267 million), New Supreme Court Building (USD 30 million), Education-Tablets (USD 14 million), Social Housing for Poor (USD 20 million), New ENT Hospital (USD 14 million) and four Medi-clinics & two Area Health Centres (AHCs). The new Supreme Court building in Port Louis, built with the grant assistance of USD 28.12 million from India, was jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth on 30 July 2020. The Social Housing Units Project in Port Louis has also been completed and jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth in January 2022. The first phase of the Metro Express Project in Port Louis, built under the India-Mauritius Development Partnership, was operationalised in 2020, and it proved to be a major success, with a record number of riders reached in the first year. Phase two of the Metro Express has also been completed and jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister and the then Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth in October 2022. The line from Rose Hill to Reduit, spanning 3.4 kms, under a combined LoC of USD 90 million, and a grant of USD 10 million, was inaugurated on 22 January 2023 by the then Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth.

Other significant infrastructure and capacity building projects completed by India in Mauritius are building an ENT Hospital, and the E-Tablet project to provide teaching aids for primary schools in Mauritius. India is also providing grant assistance for the construction of a Civil Services College in Mauritius, which was jointly inaugurated by Prime Minister and the Prime Minister of Mauritius Navinchandra Ramgoolam on 12 March. Construction of Forensic Science Laboratory through Indian grant-in-aid is underway. The Mediclinic at Grand Bois has been inaugurated and handed over to the Government of Mauritius on 17 July, 2024 and is now running successfully for patient service. Two Area Health Centres (AHCs) in New Grove and Cap Malheureux have been inaugurated on 4 October and 15 March respectively. Work on the Renal Transplant Unit at the Jawahar Lal Nehru Hospital in Mauritius under Government of India grant assistance of USD 10 million is complete and is likely to be handed over to the Government of Mauritius soon. To combat rising drug menace in Mauritius, supply of anti drug and smuggling unit equipment was handed over by Foreign Secretary to the Government of Mauritius on 1 July.

India is also in the process of procuring and supplying 100 electric buses and 20 chargers on grant basis to the Government of Mauritius. Out of these, 40 e-Buses and 11 chargers were delivered to Mauritius by December. The delivery of remaining 60 e-buses and nine chargers are expected to be completed in 2026.

Senegal

India has extended assistance in setting up the Entrepreneurial Training & Development Centre (ETDC) at Dakar. The institute was initially set up by HMT International Ltd. in 2001 and was inaugurated in March 2002. As the technology and training had since become obsolete, it was decided to upgrade and modernise the Centre. India facilitated the modernisation and upgradation of the Centre in two phases. In the first phase, M/s HMT (I) undertook reconditioning, retrofitting and refurbishing of the general-purpose machines set up earlier, which were useful for basic training. This phase was completed and inaugurated in June 2019. In the second phase, HMT (I) supplied the latest technology machines and equipment for identified trades, trained Senegalese personnel in India and deputed Indian experts for 'On-the-Job Training' of the Centre facilitators in Dakar. This phase was also completed and handed over to the Government of Senegal in September 2023.

Zambia

The Government of India has supplied Medical equipment to the Government of Zambia worth USD 9.6 million through a grant-in-aid. The equipment was handed over to the Minister of Health of Zambia on 18 April. India has also gifted 600 sewing machines to Zambia to support skill training and women's economic empowerment activities of the Ministry of Community Development and Social Services. The sewing machines were delivered in September.

South Africa

With a view to promote quality vocational education and training to meet the training requirements of young people and the artisan skills requirements of South Africa, an MoU for setting-up of the Gandhi Mandela Centre of Specialisation for Artisan Skills (GMCOS) was signed between India and South Africa during Prime Minister's visit to South Africa in July 2018. The MoU entails setting-up of Centres of Excellence in South Africa. The Government of South Africa identified Tshwane South Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) College, Pretoria, as the first location of the Gandhi-Mandela Centre. Under Indian assistance, machinery and equipment, computer hardware, software, peripherals and video conferencing facilities in skills in demand in South Africa have been supplied. The GMCOS at TVET College was launched in October 2021. Given the utility of the project, the Government of South Africa has requested an extension of the project, which India has agreed to, and the annual maintenance of the facility is also underway.

São Tomé and Príncipe

The Government of India has gifted a fleet of six school buses to the Government of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe. In a ceremony held in São Tomé on 10 April, these buses were handed over to the Minister of Education, Culture, Science and Higher Education of the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe by the Ambassador of India to the Democratic Republic of São Tomé and Príncipe.

Ethiopia

The Government of Ethiopia has sought India's support for the installation of a new Data Centre at the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry, on a grant basis. The project is under initial stage of implementation.

Mongolia

India is providing support for the construction of the India-Mongolia Friendship Secondary School in Ulaanbaatar. The project work is in progress and expected to be completed by 2026.

Comoros

India is supporting Comoros in the supply of public transport vehicles, including buses, ambulances and pick-up vans, intended to improve access to mobility for the common people of Comoros. The ambulances and pick-up vans were delivered to Comoros in August.

Latin American and Caribbean (LAC) Countries

India delivered Small and Medium Enterprises (SME) machinery to CARICOM (Caribbean Community) and SICA (Central American Integration System) countries, fort the creation of sustainable businesses. In August, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines received equipment for a leafy vegetables and root crop processing and packaging plant. In July, Trinidad and Tobago was provided with machinery for an integrated automatic processing and packaging plant for fruits, vegetables, and flour. Machinery for Barbados, Belize, and Honduras is expected to be dispatched shortly. Proposals from the Dominican Republic, Guyana, St. Kitts and Nevis, and Guatemala are in the early implementation phase.

To strengthen cricketing relations between India and Jamaica, electronic scoring systems and video boards were installed at Sabina Park Stadium in Kingston. The official handover occurred during the T20 match between West Indies and Australia at Kingston on 20 July.

Prime Minister announced 'Solar Electrification of one Government Building in each CARICOM country' during the second India-CARICOM Summit in Georgetown in 2024. Since then, project proposals have been received from Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, Belize and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. The projects are under initial stages of implementation. During his official visit to the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in July, Prime Minister announced a gift of 2000 laptops to support Trinidad and Tobago's flagship educational programme. The project is under implementation and is expected to be completed in 2026.

Suriname

With the aim of supporting small and medium sized enterprises in the countries of the Global South, a grant of USD 1 million was announced by Prime Minister under the Supply of Equipment for Efficient Development of SMEs (SEEDS) Initiative during the second India-CARICOM Summit held in Guyana in 2024. Under the 'SEEDS' Initiative, establishment of a plant for processing and packaging unit for passion fruit in Suriname is underway. The Government of India supported the implementation of the Integrated Social Welfare Program of Government of Suriname under the Extended Fund Facility of the International Monetary Fund with procurement and supply of 28 different items of food grains for a period of six months. The food items were handed over to Government of Suriname in three phases from January to May.

Pacific Island Countries

India will supply 16 sea ambulances to nine Pacific Island Countries (PICs), one of the deliverables announced by the Prime Minister during the FIPIC (Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation) III summit held in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, on 22 May 2023. The sea ambulances are intended to improve emergency medical services across the Pacific Island Countries (PICs), which often face challenges due to their remote locations and lack of access to timely medical care. This commitment underscores India's role as a key development partner for the PICs, focusing on humanitarian assistance and sustainable development.

Fiji

The Government of India is working closely with the Government of the Republic of Fiji (GoRF) in developing a new 100 bedded Super Specialty Cardiology Hospital in Suva as a Government of India Grant-in-aid project, which was announced by

Prime Minister at the Third FIPIC Summit in 2023. An MoU between Government of India and GoRF for the design, construction, commissioning, operation and maintenance of a Super-Specialty Hospital in Fiji was signed on 24-26 August during the official visit of the Prime Minister of Fiji Sitiveni Rabuka to India. Construction of this super specialty hospital will improve overall health outcomes across Pacific Island Countries.



India and Fiji signed an MoU on Design, Construction, Commissioning, Operation And Maintenance Of A Super-Specialty Hospital In Fiji, during the visit of Prime Minister of Fiji Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka to India, August 2025

India has started the process for the supply of 12 agriculture drones to Fiji to help with the optimisation of fertiliser application for increased crop yields and enhanced agricultural productivity in the sugarcane industry of Fiji.

Palau

In January, MoS (PM) visited Peleliu Island in Palau, where he formally handed over 12 water tanks, gifted by the Government of India for rainwater harvesting, to the Governor of the Peleliu Island.

QUAD

Delivering on its QUAD commitments, the Government of India has committed around USD 2 million to provide solar cold storage, solarisation of health care facilities, and solar water pumping systems to Comoros, Fiji, Madagascar, and Seychelles in the Indo-Pacific region. Solar equipment for Comoros, Fiji, Madagascar and Seychelles were delivered in October and December.

Digital Public Infrastructure

India is promoting digital public infrastructure incubated in India, viz., the digital offerings of the Unified Payments Interface (UPI), Digital Identity platform, DigiLocker, eSanjeevani, among others, worldwide, especially among countries of the Global South. This emanated from deliberations under the Voice of the Global South Summits held in 2023 and 2024. India's push for DPI is in furtherance of digital transformation in both India and foreign countries and to enhance cooperation in ecosystem-centric digital initiatives (such as India Stack). Governmental efforts to promote IndiaStack DPI with Foreign Governments have fructified into 23 MoUs. India signed six MoUs on 'Cooperation in the Field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation' with partner countries including Venezuela, Sri Lanka, Lesotho, Maldives, Brazil, and Mongolia. The MoU would enable the adaptation of IndiaStack platforms such as Aadhaar, UPI, and DigiLocker, to promote efficient public service delivery globally.

For the export/promotion of UPI abroad, till date, six Letter of Intent have been signed between RBI and the Central Bank of host countries, which are Guyana, Peru, Uruguay, Namibia, Fiji and Nigeria.

So far, UPI Interface has been implemented in Nepal, Bhutan, the UAE, Singapore, Mauritius, Sri Lanka, France and Maldives. Commercial Agreements have also been signed between NIPL (NPCI International Payments Limited) and its counterpart in Namibia, Peru and Trinidad and Tobago. The solution is expected to go live by 2026 in these countries.

India is assisting the implementation of the Sri Lanka Unique Digital Identity programme with Indian grant assistance. The implementation of this project would lead to more effective and efficient delivery of government services and enhanced socio-economic inclusion in Sri Lanka.

India has undertaken outreach activities on PM Gati Shakti - National Master Plan for Multi-modal connectivity (PMGS-NMP) with several partner countries in the Global South, including countries in the neighbourhood.

DPA IV

DPA IV Division is entrusted with the responsibility to deal with the projects for restoration and conservation of heritage sites, which define the cultural landscape of partner countries as a part of India's cultural diplomacy outreach. While these projects are implemented by Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), the designated technical agency under the Ministry of Culture, they are coordinated and funded by the Ministry. Projects currently under implementation are in Cambodia (Ta Prohm and Preah Vihear), Lao PDR (Vat Phou) and Vietnam (E & F) groups of Temples. This Division also collaborates with other organisations to implement projects related to restoration and conservation of intangible heritage assets like murals, manuscripts, etc.

Ta Prohm Temple, Cambodia

This project is the Ministry's oldest project of its kind, having commenced in February, 2004. The current ten-year-long phase III of the project is likely to be completed in November 2026. During the year, conservation work has been completed for major segments like the Hall of Dancers, bringing the overall physical progress to more than 81 percent. The Cambodian Government has requested the restoration and conservation of five additional structures of the Temple as the fourth phase, which is under active consideration by this Division.

Preah Vihear Temple, Cambodia

This is the latest project taken up by the Ministry and the second project in Cambodia. This project has been sanctioned in 2020. It is likely to be completed in 10 years. During the year, the implementation of project activities has picked up pace with the completion of baseline assessments, scientific studies and creation of tourist accessibility facilities. Despite conflict-induced disruptions to work, the overall physical progress is almost 25 percent.

Vat Phou Temple, Lao PDR

The project is currently in its second phase, after successful completion of the first phase (May 2007-May 2017). The 10-year-long second phase had commenced in November 2018. Overall physical progress achieved as of date is close to 35 percent. The major scope of work includes the Western Brick Gallery, the Southern Quadrangle, restoration of the first terrace on the east side of the retaining wall, conservation of the ceremonial pathway, the Naga Linga, and the phallic-shaped pillar.



The second phase of restoration of Vat Phou Temple in Lao PDR achieved 35 percent progress in 2025

My Son group of Temples, Vietnam

Work at the "E" and "F" groups of the Temple complex was initiated as a new project in the current year, following the successful restoration of the previous three groups of temples - H, K & A. To date, physical progress of 12 percent has been achieved, with preliminary studies and ground preparation works/ surface rain water management studies being completed.

Conservation of murals at Wat Raja Bo Pagoda, Cambodia

This project is being implemented as a grant-in-aid, with ASI providing supervisory and technical expertise to Cambodian officials. Restoration work is underway, and two instalments of the grant amount have been released.

Conservation of Kutishvara Temple, Cambodia

The Ministry will support the local monument authorities in Cambodia through a grant-in-aid for the conservation of the Kutishvara Temple at Angkor Park in Siem Reap Province. The temple is considered to be one of the oldest in the region.

Conservation of Indic manuscripts in repositories abroad

After successful completion of the first phase involving 1100 manuscripts, Project 'South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive' (SAMHITA) has been extended to this year to cover an additional 3000 manuscripts in eight countries/ repositories. As of date, metadata analysis has been carried out for 1,420 manuscripts, and data for an additional 900 manuscripts have been linked to the PANDiT database. The entire library of digitised manuscripts has been put in the public domain as the 'South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive' at www.samhita.iicdelhi.in.

CHAPTER

19

Policy Planning & Research

Policy Planning and Research (PP&R) is the nodal division of the Ministry for initiatives relating to medium-term policy planning and research. In addition, the division also undertakes outreach activities with the strategic, think-tank, and academic community specialising in foreign policy. PP&R division conducts in-house policy analysis for the Ministry on a regular basis on key international issues. The research output is utilised by the Ministry and Indian Missions and Posts abroad in dealing with their various mandates.

The division holds Policy Planning Dialogues (PPDs) with policy planning bureaus of foreign counterparts to exchange views and understanding on regional and global issues. It is also the nodal Division for the Voice of Global South Summits (VoGSS) initiative of the Government and for coordinating India's Neighbourhood First Policy in the Ministry.

The Division also supervises the functioning of the MEA's Library and Boundary Cell. It is also the nodal administrative agency for matters pertaining to the Indian Council for World Affairs (ICWA) and Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS), the two autonomous policy research bodies supported by the Ministry.

In this year, the Division held Policy Planning Dialogues with counterpart Policy Planning Divisions/ bureaus of the Foreign Ministries of Poland, Indonesia, and Vietnam. A policy planning dialogue was jointly held with BRICS member states.

PP&R Division, in collaboration with leading think tanks and academic institutions, spearheads India's foreign policy outreach through its four flagship initiatives: the Raisina Dialogue, Indian Ocean Conference, Asia Economic Dialogue, and Global Technology Summit. It also organises a range of high-impact strategic dialogues, including forums like India-US, India-Japan, India-Europe among others, reinforcing India's engagement on global and regional issues.

In this year, the 10th edition of the Raisina Dialogue was organised on 17-19 March in New Delhi, with the theme 'Kalachakra: People, Peace, and Planet', in

collaboration with the Observer Research Foundation (ORF). The dialogue witnessed participation of over 3500 representatives from about 125 countries including Ministers, former Heads of State and Heads of Government, military commanders, captains of industry, technology leaders, academics, journalists, scholars on strategic affairs, experts from leading think tanks, and youth.

The eighth Indian Ocean Conference was held in Muscat, Oman on 16-17 February, organised in collaboration with India Foundation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Oman. The theme for this year's Conference was 'Voyages to New Horizons of Maritime Partnership.'

The ninth edition of the Asia Economic Dialogue was organised on 20-22 February in Pune, Maharashtra, in collaboration with Pune International Centre. The theme of the ninth edition of the Dialogue was 'Economic Resilience and Resurgence in an Era of Fragmentation.'

The ninth edition of the Global Technology Summit (GTS) was co-hosted by the Ministry and Carnegie India in New Delhi on 10-12 April. The theme for this year's Summit was 'Sambhavna', meaning possibilities, and explored how emerging technologies can drive inclusive growth, strengthen digital governance, and deepen cross-border partnerships. The second edition of GTS Innovation Dialogue was organised in collaboration with Carnegie India in New Delhi on 10-11 December.



EAM addressed the ninth edition of GTS in New Delhi, April 2025.

The eighth India-US Forum was held on 21-23 April in New Delhi, organised in collaboration with Ananta Centre. Vice President of the United States JD Vance delivered a keynote at the India-US Forum virtually.

The Raisina Quad Young Fellows Programme was held on 9-15 August in collaboration with ORF. The programme enables fellows to engage in high-level thematic discussions and brings together scholars and practitioners from across Quad countries.

The second India-Nordic Track 1.5 Dialogue was organised in Reykjavik, Iceland on 4-5 September in collaboration with Ananta Centre. The dialogue focused on strengthening India's ties with Nordic nations through trade, tech, and tourism.



MoS (KVS) addressed the second India Nordic Track 1.5 Dialogue in Reykjavik (Iceland), September 2025

The second edition of the India-Indonesia Track 1.5 Dialogue was held in Jakarta on 15-16 September in collaboration with the Center for Strategic and International Studies, Indonesia and Gateway House.

The fourth Raisina Forum for Future of Diplomacy was organised in New Delhi on 3-12 October, in collaboration with ORF. The forum saw participation of 46 diplomats and representatives from 37 nations & four international organisations.

The India-EU Track 1.5 Dialogue was held in Brussels on 8-10 October. The dialogue brought together senior policymakers, experts, and business leaders from both sides to discuss and strengthen India-EU cooperation.

The first edition of India-ASEAN Strategic Dialogue was organised in collaboration with India Foundation in Kuala Lumpur on 16 October. The eighth India-Japan Indo Pacific Forum in collaboration with Delhi Policy Group was organised in Tokyo on 4-5 November.

The fourth India-Japan Forum was held on 7-8 December in New Delhi, organised in collaboration with Ananta Centre. The 24th India-Korea Dialogue was held on 17-19 December in Seoul, organised in collaboration with Ananta Centre.



EAM addressed the eighth India-Japan Forum in New Delhi, December 2025

Various other foreign policy outreach activities, including Track 1.5 and Track 2.0 dialogues, were organised across the country. These include the Kochi Dialogue held in collaboration with Centre for Public Policy Research (CPPR) in Kochi (16-17 January), Health Diplomacy Dialogue in collaboration with Indian Institute of Public Health in Gandhinagar (17-18 January), Technology Dialogue in collaboration with Office of Principal Scientific Adviser and IISc in Bengaluru (24-25 January), fifth India-Japan Intellectual Conclave 'Kizuna' in collaboration with the Asian Confluence in Guwahati (6-7 February), fourth Maharana Pratap Annual Geopolitics Dialogue in collaboration with USANAS Foundation in Jaipur (14-15 February), Global Conference on New Sinology in collaboration with Organisation for Research on China and Asia (ORCA) in New Delhi (23-24 September), Aravalli Dialogue in collaboration with Jawaharlal Nehru University's School of International Studies (JNU-SIS) in New Delhi (6-7 October) and the All India Conference of China Studies in collaboration with IIM Indore in Indore (24-26 October). The eighth edition of Science and Geopolitics of Arctic and Antarctic (SaGAA) was held in collaboration with Scientific Committee on Antarctic Research in New Delhi (24-25 November), International Relations Conference was organised in collaboration with Symbiosis International University in Pune (29-30 November), India's World Conclave was held in collaboration with India's World Magazine in New Delhi (3 December), International Conference on 'India in a Multipolar World' in collaboration with Jai Hind College was held in Mumbai (10-12 December), and third International Conference on Purvodaya Perspectives was held in collaboration with The Energy Forum in Bhubaneswar (13-14 December).

Through such Track 1.5/2.0 dialogues, PP&R Division continued to expand institutional engagement with think-tanks and academic institutes across different Indian states throughout the year.



EAM addressed the inaugural Aravalli Summit at Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU) in New Delhi, October 2025.

In addition, the Division produced a number of research papers and policy briefs, covering foreign policy trends and international developments. The research output is utilised by the Ministry and Indian Missions abroad. The focus of these papers ranged from immediate response options to emerging issues to medium and long-term trends and developments in the world and India's evolving role and interests over this strategic

horizon. The Division produced a range of publications, including the Foreign Policy Daily Report, NITI series newsletters covering Economy, International Legal Developments, Defence, Technology, Under the Lens Briefs, and Think Tank Compendium. The division is also mandated to prepare and publish the Annual Report of the Ministry which is tabled in the Parliament. The Annual Report is the most comprehensive public document on India's foreign policy and a key reference for the academic and thinktank community in India and abroad.

During the year, the Division spearheaded the Niti Shakti Initiative under which Divisions in the Ministry can commission short term study/research projects on any topic of interest through think tanks and academic institutions across the country.

Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA)

The PP&R Division is the administrative and nodal division in the Ministry for all matters relating to the Indian Council of World Affairs (ICWA). ICWA's mandate to formulate the Indian discourse on foreign policy was carried out throughout the year. ICWA organised 100+ intellectual activities including lectures, talks, seminars, conferences, panel discussions, book discussions, dialogues and interactions with foreign dignitaries, focused on themes of contemporary relevance and importance in international affairs. Outreach to young scholars and students was enhanced through increased internships, outreach programmes supported by grants in universities across India, and through their enhanced participation in ICWA's discussions.

During the year, ICWA published 63 Issue Briefs, 68 View Points and 22 Special reports. In addition, ICWA's long-term research projects were published in the form of eight books on issues ranging from global and regional developments to diplomacy, trade, culture, civilisation, maritime security and international law. ICWA's Journal 'India Quarterly' is brought out regularly. Further, nine Special Publications comprising papers by eminent experts on subjects including Maritime Domain Awareness, India's Space and Satellite Diplomacy, Critical Minerals in Africa, Migration and Mobility, multilateralism, among others, were published. A vertical on International Law was established in ICWA in July.

ICWA hosted Sapru House Lectures by visiting foreign dignitaries. The objective of the lectures is to facilitate interaction of the visiting dignitaries with an informed audience on issues of bilateral relations and international affairs. This year, ICWA hosted lectures by Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Fiji Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, President of the Republic of Chile Gabriel Boric Font, Secretary General of Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Nurlan Yermekbayev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia Ararat Mirzoyan, and the 55th Sapru House Lecture by Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Cyprus Constantinos Kombos.

Some important bilateral Track 2 dialogues were held with ICWA's MoU partners in Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Russia, Iran, and Uzbekistan and Track I.5 dialogues were held with ICWA's MoU partners in New Zealand, Japan, and Vietnam on areas of mutual interest and concerns. ICWA signed several MoUs with institutions from Ukraine, Nepal and Uzbekistan for collaborative activities.

As a part of ICWA's Foreign Policy Awareness programme, outreach activities in several Universities and Colleges including its MoU partners across the country were organised. ICWA supported 33 outreach conferences out of which eight outreach conferences were held in New Delhi and others were held across India including Mumbai, Pondicherry, Perundurai (Tamil Nadu), Mahendergarh (Haryana), Kowdiar (Kerala), Koni (Chattisgarh), Ahmedabad, Chandigarh, Kurukshetra (Haryana), Goa, Bengaluru, Ranchi, Dibrugarh (Assam), Shailendra Nagar (Mumbai), Tiruchirappalli (Tamil Nadu), Gorakhpur (Uttar Pradesh), Pune, Kota (Rajasthan), Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu), Gurugram, University of Kolkata Alipore Campus (Kolkata), Thirumalayam Palayam (Tamil Nadu) and Wayanad (Kerala).

The Sapru House Library, housed in ICWA, is a premier resource center for Indian and foreign scholars over the past seven decades. The library has grown into a premier research resource centre for Indian and international scholars. A new Library Brochure was developed, highlighting resources and services for outreach and promotion. Prasar Bharati produced a special Hindi documentary on the Sapru House Library under the series '**पुस्तकालयों के प्रसार एवं संरक्षण**' Filmed within the library, the documentary was telecast on Doordarshan on 16 January. Recognising the quality services rendered by the Sapru House Library, it was awarded the ISO 9001:2015 certification in September, a rare distinction held by only a few libraries in the entire country.

Research and Information System for Developing Countries (RIS)

The PP&R Division is the nodal division for all matters relating to Research and Information System (RIS) for developing countries. RIS is an autonomous policy research institute that specialises in issues related to international economic development, trade, investment, and technology. It fosters policy dialogue and capacity building among developing countries on global and regional economic issues. The primary focus is on promoting South-South Cooperation and collaborating with developing countries in multilateral negotiations in various forums.

Housed at RIS, the Global South Centre of Excellence (DAKSHIN) fosters knowledge sharing and mutual learning for building capacities and developing sustainable solutions for countries of the Global South. DAKSHIN has organised a number of workshops on agriculture, health, and digital public infrastructure. It has also collaborated with partner think tanks from across the Global South and held numerous interactive sessions with them. Through these engagements, DAKSHIN continues to strengthen knowledge sharing, promote South-South cooperation, and support inclusive development across key thematic areas.

Under DAKSHIN, RIS undertook a wide array of initiatives throughout the year, spanning high-level consultations, thematic conferences, interactive dialogues, and capacity-building programmes. These included the consultation on Health Diplomacy Futures, the virtual conference on Strengthening Agricultural Resilience, and the major International Conference on Global South and Triangular Cooperation. DAKSHIN also hosted the inaugural session of its Dialogue with Ambassadors of the Global South with the Ambassador of Egypt, and organised targeted capacity-building efforts such as the workshops on Gender-Responsive Budgeting and Women-Led Development for Inclusive Growth. The Centre launched its Special Lecture Series on the Global South, and the India–Vietnam conference on working together for the Global South, highlighting opportunities in digital public infrastructure, climate action, traditional medicine systems, and South-South cooperation. Across these diverse activities, DAKSHIN deepened partnerships, expanded expert engagement, and advanced its mission of sharing development experiences and fostering collaborative solutions across the Global South.

RIS has initiated capacity building programs that have become an important modality of South-South cooperation. RIS organised a special course for diplomats from Kuwait, Oman, and Saudi Arabia in February.

This year, RIS convened a wide-ranging set of seminars, conferences, workshops, roundtables and high-level interactions covering an expansive spectrum of regional and global development themes. These engagements spanned energy efficiency and LiFE-oriented policy exchanges, dialogues with key regional organisations such as BIMSTEC and ASEAN, and knowledge-sharing platforms on connectivity, economic growth, and emerging technologies including AI and its social and ethical implications. RIS also organised thematic discussions on blue economy prospects, sustainable development, development finance, triangular cooperation, and evolving global partnerships. Collectively, these and other engagements reflected RIS's continued commitment

to fostering international cooperation, policy dialogue, and evidence-based research across diverse domains of global and regional significance.

MEA Library

The Ministry's Library acts as a Resource and Information Centre for the use of officers and staff members of MEA at headquarters as well as for Indian Missions and Posts abroad. The library is currently housed at Patiala House in Delhi. The library has over one hundred thousand books, rich resource materials and a large collection of maps, microfilms, and official documents. It is also equipped with modern facilities to support policy planning and research.

CHAPTER

20

Legal and Treaties Division

The Legal and Treaties (L&T) Division oversees all legal matters of the Ministry of External Affairs advising from the international law perspective. In 2025, the Division continued to provide advice on issues of critical importance handled by the Ministry as well as Government of India as a whole. The Division also deals with examination, vetting and facilitating ratification of numerous bilateral and multilateral agreements/treaties, besides, participating in international negotiations on behalf of India.

Engagement with the United Nations and other International Organizations

United Nations

Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly

The Sixth Committee of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) also known as the Legal Committee, is dedicated to addressing matters of global importance, fostering the development of international law and resolving various legal questions. It reviews reports from the International Law Commission (ILC) and formulates recommendations on critical legal issues, which are then presented to the General Assembly for consideration and necessary action.

During the 80th Session of the UNGA, held from 9-29 September, India played an important role in the Sixth Committee. India delivered statements on various agenda items which include -Measures to Eliminate International Terrorism, Rule of Law at National and International levels, Criminal Accountability of UN officials and Experts on Mission, Protection of Persons in the event of Disasters, Special Committee on Charter, Universal Jurisdiction and Report of UNCITRAL. The L&T Division of the Ministry has been actively engaged in the working of the Sixth Committee throughout the year and contributes to strengthening the principles of international law by raising its voice to secure common good of the Global South.

International Law Week

India participated in the 35th Informal Meeting of Legal Advisers, held from 27-28 October during the international law week at the UN Headquarters, New York, USA. The topics of this year for discussion included 'Commemoration of the 78th Anniversary of the United Nations' and the 'Right to Self-Defence'.

Special Committee on UN Charter

The annual session of the Special Committee on UN Charter and strengthening the role of the Organization was held on 18-26 February. A national statement in line with India's position was delivered.

The Asian-African Legal Consultative Organisation (AALCO)

The Asian- African Legal Consultative Organisation (AALCO) is an inter-governmental organization headquartered in New Delhi. AALCO is mandated to serve as an advisory body in the field of international law for its Asian and African member States. It functions as a forum for Asian-African cooperation in legal matters of common concern. India hosts the Secretariat of AALCO and is one of the founding members of AALCO. The Legal and Treaties Division participated in the 63rd Annual Session of AALCO held in Kampala, Republic of Uganda from 7-12 September.

During the AALCO's Annual Session, Member States recognized the need to collectively combat pressing global challenges of climate change, cybercrimes, sea-level rise, degradation of marine biodiversity, protectionist tendencies in trade and investment, corruption and asset recovery and armed conflicts.

BIMSTEC

The L&T Division is actively engaged in the activities of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC). During the year, the Division undertook preparations to host the 10th Meeting of the BIMSTEC Sub-group on Legal and Law Enforcement Issues and remained involved in the negotiations on the BIMSTEC Convention on Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH)

During the year, the Legal & Treaties (L&T) Division continued its active engagement with the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH),, an intergovernmental organization based at the Hague, Netherlands mandated with the progressive unification of the rules of private international law. India, a Member State of the HCCH since 2008, is a Contracting Party to four HCCH Conventions, namely the Convention Abolishing the Requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents, 1961 (Apostille Convention); the Convention on Protection of Children and Co-operation in Respect of Intercountry Adoption, 1993; the Convention on the Service Abroad of Judicial and Extrajudicial Documents in Civil or Commercial Matters, 1965; and the Convention on the Taking of Evidence Abroad in Civil or Commercial Matters, 1970.

The L&T Division, functioning as India's National Organ for the HCCH, facilitated coordination and communication between the HCCH Permanent Bureau, Member States, and the national Central and Competent Authorities in India under the various HCCH Conventions. The Division also coordinated with nodal Ministries and concerned authorities for effective implementation and engagement under these Conventions.

During the period, the India has contributed to several projects and initiatives of the HCCH and actively participated in meetings of various Working Groups and Expert Groups, including those on Legal Parentage and International Surrogacy Arrangements, Carbon Credits, Digital Assets, and Jurisdiction, as well as in the Council on General Affairs and Policy (CGAP-2025).

UNCITRAL

The United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), established in 1966, is the primary legal entity within the United Nations system devoted to international trade law. The Legal & Treaties Division as a nodal legal division continuously participates in the deliberation of all UNCITRAL Working Groups and making significant contributions to negotiation and adoption of conventions, guidelines, on international trade law evolution. This year also, the Division maintained its continuous involvement, closely following selected Working Group activities and providing valuable inputs. participated in various Working Group meetings including the Working Group on 'Reforming Investor-State Dispute Settlement' in 2025, Negotiable Cargo Instruments, Investor State Dispute Settlement Reform, Dispute settlement regarding recognition and enforcement of electronic arbitral awards, Draft guide to enactment of the UNCITRAL Model Law on Applicable Law in Insolvency Proceedings, Electronic Commerce and Negotiable Cargo Documents.

At the 50th Session in Vienna, Austria in January, the Working Group deliberated on draft provisions addressing procedural and cross-cutting issues, including transparency, third-party funding and early dismissal of frivolous claims. It also examined a draft statute for a standing mechanism to resolve international investment disputes. The 51st session, held in two parts (February and April) at New York dealt with the operationalization of an Advisory Centre for developing countries and the design of a multilateral instrument to implement reform outcomes. The second part revisited the standing mechanism and procedural reforms. By the 52nd session in Vienna, Austria in September, the Working Group had progressed to reviewing draft statutes for both a permanent tribunal and an appellate mechanism, while also addressing complex issues such as exhaustion of local remedies, denial of benefits, shareholder claims, and the right to regulate.

The Division actively participated in the above said discussions which are beneficial for India as India had long advocated for a more balanced and transparent ISDS framework. The emphasis on procedural safeguards, such as early dismissal and cost allocation, aligns with India's concerns about frivolous claims and litigation costs. The focus on preserving regulatory space, especially the right to regulate in public interest, resonates with India's stance in its model Bilateral Investment Treaty, reinforcing its ability to pursue domestic policy objectives without undue external interference.

Law of the Sea

India proactively engaged in various international maritime forums. India participated in the informal Consultations of State Parties to the UN Fish Stocks Agreement (ICSP17), held at New York from 14-16 May, showcasing commitment to collaborative efforts for sustainable fisheries management. India also participated in the 35th Meeting of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), held from June 23-27 and delivered its national statement. India participated at the 30th Session of the Council and Assembly meeting of the International Seabed Authority (ISA), where discussions centered on negotiations on the draft regulations for exploitation of seabed mineral resources and development of a Common Heritage Fund. Actively participating in the United Nations Open-ended Informal Consultative Process on Oceans and the Law of the Sea, India engaged in discussions on 'Capacity building and the transfer of marine technology: New Developments, Approaches and Challenges' during its twenty-fourth meeting from 16-20 June.

Indian delegation headed by the Minister of State for Earth Sciences participated in the third UN Ocean Conference held at Nice, France from 9-13 June. In April, India submitted its amended Continental Shelf Claims to the Division of Ocean Affairs and Law of the Sea (DOALOS). On 16 July, the Indian scientific experts from Ministry of Earth Sciences made a presentation before the Commission on the Limits of Continental Shelf (CLCS).

Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ)

It aims to address the growing concerns over long-term protection of marine biodiversity in the high seas. India remains committed and pro-active to the global cause of environmental conservation and sustainable development. India signed the BBNJ agreement on 25 September 2024 and is in the process of ratification of the same.

Outer Space

India participated in the 68th Session of the UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space from 25 June - 2 July and also attended the 64th Session of the Legal Subcommittee of UN Committee on the Peaceful Uses of Outer Space (United Nations Office for Outer Space Affairs) from 5-16 May, in Vienna, Austria. Various legal questions related to peaceful exploration and use of outer space were discussed at the Session. Topics on the Legal Sub-Committee agenda included - definition and delimitation of outer space, character and utilization of the geostationary orbit, including consideration of ways and means to ensure the rational and equitable use of the geostationary orbit without prejudice to the role of the International Telecommunication Union.

Environment and Climate Change

CoP30 Negotiations

India participated in the 30th Conference of the Parties (CoP30) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), held on 10-21 November, in Belém, Brazil. Among other things, a major decision on the establishment of the Just Transition Mechanism was adopted. This decision aims to help operationalize equity and climate justice at both global and national levels. Additionally, Division contributed to discussions on various other crucial topics such as adaptation, mitigation, compliance mechanisms under the Paris Agreement, response measures, and the implementation of the UNFCCC, Kyoto Protocol and Paris Agreement commitments.

Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice

The Legal & Treaties Division participated in the 62nd session of the Subsidiary Body for Scientific and Technological Advice (SBSTA), held in Bonn, Germany from June 16-26 June. The session focused on a range of critical issues related to climate change, namely adaptation and mitigation strategies, response measures, climate finance, policy and institutional coherence in climate governance and strengthening the means of implementation for effective climate action through cooperation.

Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 16)

The Division participated in the first meeting of Subsidiary Body on Article 8(j) and Other Provisions of the Convention on Biological Diversity (COP 16) related to Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities from 27–30 October in Panama City, Panama. The meeting focused on Strategies for mobilizing resources to ensure the availability of and access to financial resources and funding, as well as other means of implementation, including capacity-building, development and technical support for indigenous peoples and local communities, including women and youth, to support the full implementation of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework.

International Legally Binding Instrument on Plastics Pollution, including in the Marine Environment Negotiations

The Intergovernmental Negotiating Committee on Plastic Pollution (INC) was established in March 2022 following a resolution adopted at the UN Environment Assembly (UNEA-5.2) to develop a legally binding international Instrument on plastic pollution, including in the marine environment. Since its establishment, the INC has convened multiple negotiating sessions, with the most recent being the resumed fifth session (INC-5.2) held in Geneva from 5-14 August. The Division actively participated in the negotiations during the INC-5.2 session in Geneva. During the

negotiations, India reiterated its position emphasizing the need for fiscal and technical assistance to support developing countries in meeting the obligations under the proposed Instrument and ensuring equitable implementation of its provisions.

Antarctic Treaty System

The 47th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) and the 27th Committee for Environmental Protection (CEP) was held from 23 June - 3 July in Milan, Italy. It brought together representatives from 29 Consultative Parties, observers, and invited experts to deliberate on pressing Antarctic issues. The meeting also endorsed a revision on the strategic priority, expanding its scope from surveying to broader data collection and sharing initiatives. The Legal & Treaties Division attended the ATCM meeting and contributed to the discussions.

Nuclear Law

India is a party to the Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC). Officers from the Legal & Treaties Division are engaged in discussions relating to the proposed Amendment to the CSC and have participated in the Preparatory Committee (PrepCom) meetings organized by the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA). The Division works in close coordination with the Department of Atomic Energy and the Disarmament & International Security Affairs (D&ISA) Division of the Ministry on a range of legal issues related to the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Other Activities of the Division

Seminar on Hague Judgements Convention and UNIDROIT Principles on Digital Assets and Private Law

On 30 January, at New Delhi the Legal & Treaties Division successfully organized a seminar on the '2019 Hague Judgments Convention and UNIDROIT Principles on Digital Assets and Private Law,' drawing a remarkable turnout of legal scholars, practitioners, and policy experts from across jurisdictions. The event fostered discussions on cross-border enforcement of judgments and the evolving legal frameworks surrounding digital assets, reflecting the growing relevance of these topics in international private law.

International Humanitarian Law

The Legal & Treaties Division participated in the 2025 Asia and the Pacific Regional Conference on International Humanitarian Law (IHL) held in Manila, Philippines from 11-14 August. The Conference at the backdrop of the ongoing international armed conflicts, discussed legal implications from International Humanitarian Law (IHL) perspective, principle of distinction, protection of Hospitals, School and also focused on national IHL Committees.

Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters and Extradition

The Legal & Treaties Division examines Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Treaties (MLAT) and Extradition Treaties and requests. As the central authority overseeing MLAT matters, the Ministry of Home Affairs provided comprehensive texts of draft treaties for legal scrutiny.

Many Mutual Legal Assistance in Civil and Criminal Matters and Extradition requests, both originating from India and foreign countries, underwent meticulous scrutiny in the Legal & Treaties Division and comprehensive legal opinions were provided.

Trade and Investment

The Legal & Treaties Division participated in the negotiation of the India-UK Free Trade Agreement (called Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement between the Republic of India and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland). The Agreement signed on 24 July deals with not only goods and services but also cooperation in technology, innovation, and sustainable development. It includes significant concessions such as slashing import duties on automobiles, introducing progressive chapters like Trade and Gender Equality, and granting

India zero-duty access to nearly its entire export basket to the UK.

The Division also participated in the ongoing negotiation of India–EU Trade Agreement; India-New Zealand Free Trade Agreement and India-Oman Free Trade Agreement. Additionally, Division is also involved in the negotiation of the Amending Agreement of India-Australia Free Trade Agreement which seeks to expand the scope of the already signed India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA)

International and Domestic Dispute Settlement

Investment Arbitration Cases

The Legal & Treaties Division provides legal advice to various Ministries on arbitration cases filed against the Government of India, involving violations of Bilateral Investment Treaties. In the Arbitration proceedings initiated against India.

Climate Change case before ITLOS

The International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea (ITLOS) invited the State Parties to UNCLOS and others to present written statements on the questions submitted to the Tribunal for an advisory opinion in the case 'Request for an Advisory Opinion submitted by the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law'. The Division assisted in the preparation of the written statement, and the delegation was led by Joint Secretary (L&T), who presented India's Stand.

ICJ Case on Climate Change

The International Court of Justice (ICJ), in the Advisory Opinion on 'Obligations of States in respect of Climate Change', referred to by the General Assembly of the United Nations through resolution A/RES/77/276 started its hearings. It seeks an advisory opinion on the obligation of States under international law to protect the climate system and the consequences for those failing to do so. The Division participated in the proceedings and argued that the developed countries which have historically been the largest contributor to anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions must be held accountable for the harm caused by climate change and take the lead in greenhouse gas reduction.

Domestic Court cases

The Legal & Treaties Division plays a major role in litigations filed by or against the Ministry before the domestic courts. As the nodal point for all court cases involving the Ministry, it offers comprehensive legal support, including the thorough vetting of affidavits and preparation of responses to petitions filed against the Ministry. The Division also liaises with the panel advocates representing the Ministry in court, ensuring legal representation and assistance on issues related to the Ministry.

Treaty Practice, Online Treaty Database and legal vetting

The Legal & Treaties Division facilitates the signing and ratification of treaties on behalf of India. To sign the treaties on behalf of India, this Division issued Instruments of Full Power, as detailed in Annexure-II. Similarly, the implementation of signed bilateral and multilateral treaties was achieved through the issuance of 24 Instruments of Ratification, a process handled by the Legal & Treaties Division, with a list available in Annexure -III.

In its capacity as the depository of all treaties signed on behalf of India, the Division ensures accessibility and transparency. Annexure-IV provides a detailed list of 260 Agreements/Treaties signed by India during the year. The Legal & Treaties Division further provides its service by indexing and uploading the text of these treaties into the Indian Treaties Database, which is consistently updated. This comprehensive database, accessible through the web link https://www.mea.gov.in/treaty.htm encompasses treaties from 1950 to 2025, exceeding 4000 Agreements and is open to the public, emphasizing the commitment to transparency and providing valuable historical and contemporary insights into India's international engagements.

Examination/Vetting of Legal Documents

The Legal & Treaties Division has undertaken examination of various international law instruments, including Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs), Treaties/Agreements, as well as Draft Cabinet notes, covering a diverse array of subject matters. These instruments span a wide spectrum of areas, reflecting the multifaceted nature of India's international engagements.

Legal Opinions and Legal Research

This year Division offered legal opinions on various matters including, Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, Indus Waters Treaty, 1960, law of outer space, human rights, Reciprocity Act, revision of Protocol Handbook, defense cooperation agreements, arbitration cases, lease deed agreements, non-disclosure agreements, tenders, Gazette notification regarding Privileges and Immunities to International Big Cat Alliance, Gazette notification regarding extension of Privileges and Immunities to the International Potato Centre, UN Matters, Humanitarian law, etc.

This Division's legal opinions extend to a broad spectrum of areas, encompassing local employee cases, inter-country adoption, child repatriation, consular matters, immunities and privileges, international human rights and humanitarian law matters, international criminal law, and legal assistance matters.

CHAPTER

21

e-Governance & Information Technology (eG&IT)

The e-Governance and Information Technology (eG&IT) Division is involved with the design, development, implementation and maintenance of various e-Governance initiatives of the Ministry. The Division also provides end-to-end support in respect of all Information Technology (IT) related matters to the Ministry and Missions/Posts abroad viz. procurement, maintenance and upkeep of the IT infrastructure.

During the period from January to December, eG&IT Division has undertaken several steps towards the implementation of various components of Digital India Programme in the Ministry and all Missions/Posts abroad to have a transparent, secure, accessible and participative IT ecosystem. Automation and network are being harnessed as tools to achieve synergy at all levels of functioning in the Ministry and render efficient IT services to Government Officials.

(i) Major initiatives undertaken by eG&IT Division during the year 2025 are as under:

- As an e-governance initiative for applying and issuance of political clearance for visitors coming to India from abroad, a dedicated portal was developed and hosted in March 2025.
- Integrated Mission Accounting System Version 2.0 (IMAS 2.0), a customised software for accounts of Indian Missions/ Posts abroad, has been rolled out to 211 Indian Missions/Posts. With this, the IMAS now covers all our Missions/ Posts that have reliable internet connectivity.
- Ministry of External Affairs Online Working System (MEADOWS), an in-house application, has been further improved with additional utility modules and functional and security improvements of the platform.

(ii) The Division, from time to time, has organised a number of lectures/seminars on the fundamentals of Cyber Security and Cyber Hygiene for

Government Officials, for the purpose of spreading awareness among the officials of the Ministry and Missions/Posts abroad about the basic concept of Cyber Security. For this purpose, 'Cyber Jagrookta Diwas' is observed on the first Wednesday of every month. Further, special cyber awareness/hygiene sessions are incorporated in the induction training of newly recruited officers, promotion-related training and special training for officers going on postings abroad.

CHAPTER

22

Consular, Passport & Visa Services

Consular, Passport and Visa (CPV) Division is the nodal Division responsible for providing consular and visa services to Indian nationals and foreigners, including the Indian Diaspora in India and abroad.

Consular Services

As an integral part of welfare of Indian nationals living abroad, Indian Missions and Posts abroad render all possible consular assistance to the Indian nationals and provide various consular services like attestation of documents, registration and solemnisation of marriages of Indian nationals, relief and repatriation of distressed Indian nationals, registration of births and deaths of Indian nationals, transportation of mortal remains of deceased Indian nationals and serving of summons received from Indian Courts to Indian nationals residing abroad. For Indian nationals arrested or imprisoned abroad, Consular officers of Missions and Posts abroad, during consular access visit them in prisons to ascertain their welfare and safety. Open Houses and Consular Camps are regularly organised by most Missions/Posts to provide consular services at different locations. Our Missions and Posts in Gulf countries and Malaysia have specialised Community Welfare and Labour Wings to attend to employment-related issues.

In line with the Government of India's vision and the flagship Digital India initiative, SEWA project was launched. It aims to create an online platform for a range of consular services, enabling Indian nationals to apply online for various miscellaneous consular services at Indian Missions and Posts abroad.

The CPV Division, in consultation with the line Ministries and Departments in the Government of India, state Governments, and foreign Diplomatic Missions in India, also deals with the consular matters of foreign nationals in India, mainly concerning issues related to their safety and security.

Consular Dialogue Mechanism

The Consular Dialogue mechanism is aimed at

discussing outstanding Consular, Visa and diaspora related matters with a view to engage in discussing and resolving issues faced by the Indian Diaspora/ NRIs abroad. India has so far established a bilateral Consular Dialogue mechanism with over 36 countries. In 2025, Consular Dialogues/Consultations were held with Iran, Turkmenistan, Russia, Germany, South Africa, Uzbekistan, Australia, Netherlands, United Arab Emirates, Costa Rica and the Maldives.

Visa- Exemption Agreements

India has so far signed 'Visa Exemption/Waiver Agreements' for the holders of Diplomatic and Official/Service passports with 139 countries. In 2025 alone, India signed/operationalised such agreements with the Governments of Mauritania, Nauru, Timor Leste, Togo and Saudi Arabia. Further visa exemption agreement on Official Passports was also signed and implemented with Ukraine in 2025, which was, till then, only for Diplomatic Passport holders.

Overseas Citizens of India (OCI) Card Scheme

The Ministry is committed to strengthening the connection between the Persons of Indian Origin(PIO) and their roots in India, encouraging them to visit and invest in India and foster greater and deeper ties. In line with the above objective, the CPV Division, in close coordination with the Ministry of Home Affairs, has been facilitating the easier issuance of OCI Cards. The OCI facility has been extended up to the 6th generation of Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) in Trinidad & Tobago on 28 June, in Malaysia on 5 August, and up to the 7th generation of PIOs in South Africa on 22 October.

Since the introduction of the OCI Card Scheme, more than 5.3 million OCI Cards have been issued, with 265,150 cards being issued in 2025.

e-Visa Scheme

The e-Visa facility is now available to nationals from 176 countries, making it more convenient for a wider range of travelers to visit India, In April, Mauritania, Kuwait, and Bahrain were included in the list of eligible countries for e-Visa in April 2025. The e-Visa system was expanded with the inclusion of four more Visa categories in 2025 under the system, which were earlier granted only as a paper visa. Out of 41,96,231 visas, 32,72,740 e-Visa and 9,23,491 regular visas were issued this year.

Extradition

MEA is the Central Authority for extradition matters in India. The Ministry, in coordination with relevant law enforcement authorities in India, has been actively pursuing the extradition of persons accused of terrorism, money laundering, economic offences, drug-trafficking and other criminal offences. In April, Tahawur Hussain Rana, one of the main co-accused in the 26/11 Mumbai Terror attacks, was successfully extradited from the USA. Several other fugitive criminals were extradited or deported from foreign countries. To facilitate the extradition of fugitive criminals, 60 Extradition Treaties/Arrangements are currently in force, and the Ministry is further negotiating extradition treaties/arrangements with several other countries, signed prior to 1947. The Ministry also facilitates negotiations for Agreements on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters and in Civil and Commercial Matters and Agreements on Transfer of Sentenced Persons.

Public Grievance Redressal Mechanism

CPGRAMS (Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System)

With effect from April, the CPV Division under the supervision of Joint Secretary (CPV) has been appointed as the Nodal Authority for Public Grievances pertaining to the MEA on Centralised Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). It deals with grievances pertaining to various Missions and Posts abroad as well as Divisions and Regional Passport Offices (RPOs) in

India received directly from the general public and also references from various Government offices such as Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji's Secretariat, Prime Minister's Office, Pension, Cabinet Secretariat, and Central Vigilance Commission, etc. The names and contact details of the Public Grievance Officers are also displayed on the Portal and the websites of Missions and Posts abroad and Divisions and RPOs.

During this year, 20,818 grievances were received on the CPGRAMS Portal, of which 20,482, i.e. 98.4% were successfully disposed.

MADAD

The MADAD portal, launched in February 2015 as part of the Government's good governance initiative, is a comprehensive online grievances redressal platform for Indian nationals facing distress abroad, including those stranded overseas. The Portal is accessible via www.madad.gov.in or a mobile app on iOS, Android and Windows platforms and enables registration and resolution of complaints. All Indian Missions and Posts abroad, along with MEA Branch Secretariats in Chennai, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Kolkata and Mumbai, are integrated for real-time consular grievance tracking and follow-up. Missions and Posts abroad actively address complaints and regularly update their status. MADAD covers a wide range of consular issues, including repatriation, transportation of mortal remains, death compensation, work-related problems, imprisonment, missing persons, passport services, and student concerns. Enhanced features include Multilingual Call Center services through the Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendras (PBSKs), Student Registration, integration with the e-Migrate Portal and State Governments, and assistance through the Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF). Additionally, 'X' (formerly Twitter) Sewa (@meaMADAD), launched in March 2017, facilitates grievance management and responses on social media.

A total number of 6158 grievances were received on MADAD portal during this year, and a total of 6454 (104.8%) grievances were resolved, including the pending grievances carried forward from the previous year.

Passport Seva Programme

The Passport Seva Programme (PSP) Division provides passport-related services across India and abroad. Passport issuance has emerged as one of the most prominent statutory and citizen-centric services provided by the Ministry. To ensure timely, transparent, accessible, and reliable passport delivery in a comfortable setting, the Ministry implemented significant quantitative and qualitative improvements through streamlined processes and a dedicated, trained, and motivated workforce.

Indian passports along with other travel documents such as Certificates of Identity for Stateless persons, Emergency Certificates for returnees to India, Police Clearance Certificates, Surrender Certificates, and Line of Control Travel Permits in the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir were issued by the MEA through the PSP Division, the Central Passport Organization (CPO), and its all-India network of 37 Passport Offices, the CPV Division for issuance of diplomatic and official passports and the Andaman and Nicobar Islands Administration.

There are 93 Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) in Public-Private Partnership (PPP) mode and 452 Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK) in association with the Department of Posts as extended arms of the 37 Passport Offices. The total number of PSK's functioning in the country stood at 545 as on 31 December, including PSKs and POPSKs. For Indians living abroad, Passports and Emergency Certificates are being rendered through 203 Indian Missions/ Posts abroad connected to the PSP system.

Passport Seva Programme (PSP Version 2.0)

The PSP v2.0 has enhanced features and functionalities to improve passport services for citizens in the country and for the diaspora availing passport-related services through Indian Missions/ Posts abroad. E-passports have been issued in PSP v2.0. e-Passport is a combined paper and electronic passport with a Radio Frequency Identification chip and an antenna embedded as an inlay. The main

benefit of the e-passport is its enhanced ability to maintain data integrity, thereby increasing confidence in the Indian passport. e-Passport also facilitates the ease of travel for Indian citizens, making their interface with immigration authorities smoother. The e-Passport project involved the setting up of a complex technical ecosystem, including Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), Key Management System (KMS), Inter-operability test bed, Project Management Unit (PMU), e-personalisation, as well as the creation of an e-Passport verification setup at Immigration Check Points by the Bureau of Immigration.

A state-of-the-art secure digital ecosystem is connected to all Passport Issuance Authorities, PSKs/POPSKs, and other stakeholders such as Police, the Department of Posts, and India Security Press Nashik for end-to-end processing of passport-related services in a paperless and cashless environment. In April 2024, PSP v2.0 was launched in RPO Bhubaneswar and Nagpur on a pilot basis. Subsequently, from January onwards, PSP v2.0 was rolled out in a phased manner, and all RPOs were in PSP v2.0 by 26 May. PSP v2.0 offers an interactive portal for online filing of applications, document upload, payment of requisite fees, etc., guided by Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled 'bot' and Robotic Process Automation (RPA). PSP v2.0 leverages advanced, high-end, and emerging technologies to deliver the next level of citizen experiences.

PSP, an IT-driven mission-mode project, successfully provided efficient, secure, user-friendly, transparent and accountable passport services to citizens across the country. The leverage of technology and the outsourcing of front office operations enabled a large number of citizens to access passport services easily and quickly. During this year, more than 1.27 Crore passports have been issued in India of which more than 89 Lakhs are e-passports.

Passport services in India and Missions/ Posts abroad

Global Passport Seva Programme (GPSP 2.0) is an application/portal under the ambit of PSP v2.0 to render passport-related services to Indian Citizens residing abroad. The Ministry has successfully integrated the passport issuance systems into the Global PSP (GPSP) system. Pilot testing of GPSP 2.0 was initiated in June. Subsequent to the comprehensive testing, out of 203 Missions/Posts, GPSP v2.0 was rolled out in 158 Missions/Posts. During this year, more than 12.7 Lakh passports have been issued from Missions/ Posts, of which more than 1.87 Lakh are e-passports.

mPassportSeva Mobile App

The mPassport Seva Mobile App with additional facilities to apply, pay and schedule appointments for passport services is available on both Android and iOS platforms. Citizens do not require access to a computer and printer to apply for passport services. The mPassport Seva App now supports an enhanced set of passport services, such as:

1. New User Registration
2. Sign In to Registered User Account
3. Application form filing to apply for Passport and Police Clearance Certificate
4. Payment for Passport Services
5. Appointment Scheduling
6. Application Availability Status
7. Document Advisor
8. Fee Calculator

Applying from anywhere in India

An applicant can now apply for a passport from anywhere in India. This initiative enables applicants to choose the Passport Office (PO) and, thus, the desired POPSK under the PO where they wishe to submit the application, irrespective of whether the present residential address specified in the application form lies within the jurisdiction of the selected PO or not. Police verification would be conducted by the Police Station in whose jurisdiction the address mentioned in the form falls, and the passport would be printed and dispatched to the same address by the PO selected for application submission by the applicant. 2,26,000

applications have been submitted under this scheme until the end of this year.

Appointments

The Ministry released 90,912 appointments per day. Securing online appointments for submission of passport applications at PSKs has been simplified. The current provision allows applicants to choose any appointment date from the earliest five available dates (working days) for scheduling/rescheduling an appointment for passport-related services. It made the process of issuing passports easier and quicker.

Outreach of Passport Services

The objective of the Government has been to cater to the growing demand for passports and to reach out to the people located far away from the Passport Offices.

a. Passport Office:

The list of the 37 passport offices in India is at (Annexure – V)

b. Passport Seva Kendras (PSKs):

As of December, 93 PSKs are functioning across the country. The list of the same is placed at (Annexure –VI).

c. Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSKs):

The Ministry, in association with the Department of Posts (DOP), announced an innovative initiative on 24 January 2017 to open Passport Seva Kendras (PSK) at the Head Post Offices (HPO)/Post Offices (PO) in the country, called 'Post Office Passport Seva Kendras' (POPSKs). The Ministry has functionalized 452 POPSKs (Annexure - VII).

Applicants, applying for their passports online through the passport portal can schedule an appointment and then visit the designated POPSK to complete the formalities similar to those at the PSK, necessary prior to the issue of the passport.

d. Mobile Passport Seva Vans:

One Mobile Passport Seva Van has been allotted to each of the 37 Passport Offices. Mobile Vans have the provision for 1 Citizen Service at Counter A and one Verification Officer at Counter B. To cater to the needs and demand of passport services at remote/ hilly locations, institutions, etc. Mobile Passport Seva Vans are being deployed under respective RPOs for providing the doorstop service to the passport seekers. The Total number of passport applications processed till the end of this year is 39,811.

Simplification of procedures

The Ministry has taken steps to simplify the procedure for getting passports by the general public. These involve simplification of the passport rules and outreach to the people in the delivery of passport-related services.

1. Simplification of provision for issue of passports to children born through IVF:

In order to simplify the process of issuance of passports to children born through IVF, the Ministry pursued the matter, detailed discussions were held with concerned stakeholders i.e. Ministry of Health & Family Welfare and the Department of Legal Affairs of, Government of India, to examine the issue. The Ministry formulated the policy related to the issuance of passports to children born through IVF. Accordingly, instructions were issued to all Passport Issuing Authorities in India and abroad prescribing the documents required for the issuance of passports to children born through IVF.

2. Amendment in the Passport Rules on proof of Date of Birth for passports GSR 156(E):

As per guidelines issued under the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) and 'The Registration of Births and Deaths (Amendment) Act, 2023'. GSR156 (E) was issued to incorporate the amendments and streamline the process of issuance of passport.

3. Reissue of Passport in 'Gender change' cases:

As per directions received from the Delhi High Court to take necessary steps for simplification of the procedure for issuance of passports to transgender persons who undergo gender affirmation surgery outside India. The Ministry has issued revised and simplified guidelines after consultation with the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment.

4. Revision of the format of Annexure 'C' & 'D' for the passport application of minors:

The Ministry has received references with regard to review/revision of Annexures C' & 'D' i.e. the format for seeking parental consent required to be submitted with Passport applications for minors. To address the difficulties to applicants and further strengthen the passport issuance process to minors revised Annexures were shared with Passport Issuing Authorities in India and abroad.

e-Passport

e-Passport is a combined paper and electronic passport with a Radio Frequency Identification Chip and an antenna embedded as an inlay. The main benefit of the ePassport will be its enhanced ability to maintain the integrity of its data, thereby increasing the level of confidence in the Indian Passport. e-Passports would also facilitate the ease of travel for Indian citizens, making their interface with immigration authorities much smoother.

The project involves setting up of complex technical ecosystem, including Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), Key Management System (KMS), Inter-operability test bed, Project Management Unit (PMU), ePersonalization, as well as creation of e-Passport verification set-up at Immigration Check Points by the Bureau of Immigration.

During the year, 87 Lakh ePassports were issued by RPOs in India, and 1.87 Lakhs ePassports were issued by Missions/Posts abroad. In total, 88.87 Lakh e-Passports were issued.

Production and Personalisation of Travel Documents

Indian travel documents are produced by India Security Press, Nashik, which is a unit under the Security Printing and Minting Corporation of India Limited (SPMCIL). All Regional Passport Offices in India and select Missions/Posts abroad have been provided with machine-readable passport printers. All Passport Issuing Authorities issue machine-readable passports (MRPs) as per the guidelines laid down by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

At 28 Indian Missions/Posts abroad, the Passport/ OCI printing is done locally. For the majority of Indian Missions/Posts abroad (wherever passport printing facility is not available), Machine Readable Passports and OCI are printed at the Central Indian Passport Printing System (CIPPS) in PSP Division, MEA, New Delhi.

Certificate of Identity (CoI)

The Passports Act 1967 provides for issuance of CoI 'for the purpose of establishing the identity of a Stateless person residing in India'. During this year, a total number 21,95 CoIs were issued.

Appeals under Section 11 of the Passports Act 1967

Under Section 11 of the Passports Act, an appeal against the decisions of Passport Issuing Authorities (PIAs) is a statutory right conferred upon the affected persons. Joint Secretary (PSP) & Chief Passport Officer is the Appellate Authority for such cases. During this year, a total of 117 appeals have been disposed of.

Inspection of Regional Passport Offices

PSP Division coordinates the Study Tours of the Standing Committee on External Affairs and Inspections of Regional Passport Offices by the First Sub-Committee of Parliament on Official Language on the Progressive Use of Official Language in RPOs.

During the year, the First Sub Committee of Parliament on Official Language inspected the RPOs at Guwahati on 11 April, Chandigarh on 12 June, Shimla on 12 June, Patna on 29 August and Bhubaneshwar on 21 November.

Regional Passport Officers' Conference 2025

Secretary CPV & OIA conducted the Regional Passport Officers' Conference, which was held by MEA at New Delhi on 23-25 June. All the 37 Regional Passport Officers and stakeholders of Passport Seva Programme (PSP) deliberated upon, in detail, the functioning of Passport Issuance system, its achievements as well as challenges faced, and future initiatives to make the process smoother and more effective for the citizens of India.

International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO)

Since February 2009, India has been a participating member of the 'Public Key Directory (PKD) on ePassport' of ICAO, which has been implementing the guidelines on Machine Readable Travel Documents. India participated in the 32nd ICAO PKD Board Workshop & Meeting held from 9-11 November in Montreal, Canada.

Public Grievance Redressal Mechanism

Public Grievance Redressal Mechanism Under the Passport Seva Programme, the Ministry has put in place a robust Grievance Redressal System, whereby a multilingual National Call Centre with a toll-free number (1800-258-1800), operating in 17 languages and on a 24 x 7 basis, has been set up to disseminate information about various passport-related services, including handling grievances and citizens' feedback. The passport portal also has an email-based helpdesk, where suggestions and grievances can be posted. Citizens can also monitor the status of their passport applications/grievances online through this portal.

A Public Grievance Redressal Cell (PGRC) has been set up in the PSP Division under the supervision of the Joint Secretary (CPV), who is also designated as the officer in-charge of Public Grievances of the Ministry for the Centralized Public Grievance Redress and Monitoring System (CPGRAMS). It deals with grievances received through telephone, e-mail, and post, directly from the general public and also references from various Government offices, such as the President's Secretariat, Prime Minister's Office, Cabinet Secretariat, and Central Vigilance Commission, etc. The names and contact details of the Public Grievance Officer are also displayed in the RPOs/PSKs and on the website of the RPOs.

During this year, 21,603 grievances were received at CPGRAMS, of which 20,482 grievances, i.e., 95%, were disposed of.

Central Passport Organisation

The Central Passport Organisation (CPO) was created in 1959 as a subordinate office of the Ministry of External Affairs and is headed by Joint Secretary and Chief Passport Officer, who also acts as Appellate Authority under the Passports Act, 1967.

The personnel of the CPO Cadre are deployed in 37 Passport Offices, 93 PSKs, and 452 POPSKs across the country. The sanctioned strength of CPO is 2640, and the working strength is 1721.

CHAPTER

23

Emigration Policy, Welfare & Diaspora Engagement (Overseas Indian Affairs)

Emigration Policy and Welfare Division

In recent times, international migration has assumed a pivotal role, shaped by demographic shifts and technological progress, significantly impacting labour markets worldwide. India is a leading country in the international migration dynamics and is advantageously poised with its demographic potential. By 2030, India's working-age population is set to peak at 68.9 per cent, reaching 1.04 billion persons. India's diaspora is over 35 million strong, making India one of the top remittances receiving country in the world with inward flow of remittance to the tune of USD 135 billion in the year 2024. Recognising their potential, the Government of India promotes safe, orderly and regular migration to provide employment opportunities for workers, professionals and other categories of citizens traveling abroad.

Mobility Arrangements

The Emigration policy and Welfare Division of the MEA has been working towards establishing institutional mechanisms to foster the global mobility of Indian workers, students, academicians, researchers, business persons and so on. The Ministry has been proactively furthering the mobility for Indian workforce through diverse MoUs and agreements such as, Migration and Mobility Partnerships (MMPA), Labour Mobility and Labour Welfare with destination countries. These agreements and MoUs establish a robust framework for legal migration. They aim to foster people-to-people ties, streamline visa procedures, prevent irregular migration, strengthen bilateral relations, and support skill development.

Major developments related to the Migration and Mobility and Labour Mobility Agreements signed with various countries during the current year are as below:

Russia

On 4 December, two Agreements were concluded between India and Russia viz. 'Agreement on Temporary Labour Activity of Citizens of one State in the Territory of the other State' and the 'Agreement on Cooperation in Combating Irregular Migration.' The former agreement provides for reciprocal engagement of workers of one state in the territory of the other state, while expanding its purview to include workers studying full time in the host country's educational organisations and institutions. It also outlines the processes and the necessary documentation determining the labour activity to be carried out by the worker. The latter outlines the legal framework for bilateral cooperation in combating irregular migration while promoting favourable conditions for legal travel of nationals of both parties. It further provides for cooperation between both parties in information sharing, processing of requests for transfer and admission of persons in irregular situations.

United Kingdom

During the visit to India in April, the then Minister of Border Security & Asylum of the UK Angela Eagle signed an Addendum and Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) to the MoU on the India-UK MMPA. The Addendum enables the verification of nationality through biometrics. Both sides are in discussion to finalise the mechanism to operationalise the biometric matching capabilities. India and the UK also finalised a reciprocal agreement in August allowing nationals of their countries to give oral evidence via video-link in immigration-tribunal proceedings that are jurisdictionally taking place in either country.

In 2023, pursuant to the MoU, the United Kingdom launched the India-UK Young Professionals Scheme (YPS). The scheme permits up to 3,000 Indian and UK citizens aged 18-30 to live and work in each other's country for a period of up to two years. In 2025, two ballots were held one in February and another in July. The February ballot advertised the majority of the slots (up to 2,500), and the remaining slots were opened in the July ballot.

Fiji

A delegation led by Minister of Employment, Productivity and Industrial Relations of Fiji Agni Deo Singh met Secretary (CPV&OIA) in February. They discussed, inter alia, mobility of skilled and professional persons from India and assistance in skill development through knowledge sharing and Training of Trainers (ToT). During the visit of Prime Minister of Fiji to India in August, a Declaration of Intent (DoI) on Migration and Mobility between India and Fiji was signed.

Australia

The India-Australia Migration and Mobility Agreement was signed in May 2023. Under the MMPA, the Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early-professionals Scheme (MATES) has been established to enable temporary mobility of 3,000 Indian university graduates and early career professionals. The first ballot under MATES opened in December 2024 and closed in early-January 2025. This year, the ballot opened again in November and closed in December. Both sides are currently discussing mechanisms to expand the outreach for wider participation of Indian professionals in MATES.

Joint Working Group meetings with various countries under the MMPAs/ LMAs:

India-Denmark

India and Denmark signed an Agreement on Mobility and Migration Partnership in February 2024. Under the Agreement, the first Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting was held in Copenhagen on 27-28 February. Modalities are being worked out for a prospective partnership in skilled mobility and recruitment of healthcare professionals.

India-Germany

Under the Comprehensive Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement (CMMPA) between India and Germany signed in December 2022, the second Joint Working Group (JWG) meeting was held in April 2025.

The JWG meeting deliberated on important issues such as cooperation relating to the prevention and combating of irregular migration, promotion of regular migration and mobility, and information dissemination of job opportunities via government portals.

India-Japan

In September, a meeting was held with the visiting delegation from Ibaraki Prefecture, Japan. The discussion focused on facilitating the mobility of Indian healthcare workers and exploring a proposed MoU on their recruitment, training, and accepting Indian human resources in Japan. This is part of an action plan in response to the Japanese Government's expressed interest in recruiting 50,000 Indian nationals over the next five years. This demand spans multiple categories, including the Specified Skilled Worker and Technical Intern Training Program pathways.

India-Oman

The ninth Meeting of the India-Oman JWG on Labour and Manpower was held virtually in August. The JWG meeting saw deliberations over important issues, inter alia, the strengthening of institutional mechanisms, addressing concerns raised by Indian workers and exploring prospective partnerships on various components of the whole of migration cycle to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration.

India-Qatar

The eight JWG Meeting with Qatar was held virtually in February. The discussions focused on enhancing labour cooperation through potential integration of India's e-Migrate Portal with Qatar's system, streamlining recruitment, ensuring worker protection and addressing wage, visa and medical issues. Both sides agreed on regular follow-up meetings and further technical discussions to advance these initiatives.

India-Saudi Arabia

The third Joint Committee Meeting (JCM) on Labour Cooperation was held at Riyadh, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in April. The JCM meeting saw deliberations over important issues, inter-alia, ease of recruitment of Indian workers migrating to ECR countries including reduced duration of recruitment process, leveraging institutional mechanisms to promote safe, orderly & regular migration and problems faced by Indian emigrants during medical examination.

Collaboration with International/ Multilateral Organisations

Apart from bilateral arrangements on migration and mobility and labour migration, the Division is also deeply engaged with international and multilateral organisations for enhancing the horizon of India's initiatives in fostering safe, orderly, and regular migration pathways.

The second Asia-Pacific Regional Review of Implementation of the Global Compact for Migration was held in Bangkok in February. India assumed the Chair of the Colombo Process (CP) for two years from 2024-26 for the first time since its inception in 2003. As the Colombo Process (CP) Chair, India delivered the Oral Statement on 'Review of progress and challenges with regard to implementing the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration in Asia and the Pacific'. India called for the need to exchange best practices, identify synergies and explore areas for enhanced collaboration. At the Colombo Process event titled 'Enhancing Regional Cooperation on Labour Migration for GCM Implementation', India reiterated its commitment to prioritising skill development, ethical recruitment and migrant worker empowerment.

The 15th Global Forum on Migration and Development (GFMD) Summit was held in Riohacha, La Guajira, under Colombia's chairmanship on 2–4 September. The event drew 1,500 participants, including representatives from 71 countries, 118 from civil society, 90 from international organisations, and a large number from business and Colombian NGOs. The Summit featured six expert panels, 21 side events, six round tables and five dialogues, under the theme 'Regular migration, labour mobility and human rights: pillars of development and wellbeing of societies.' The 116th session of the Council of the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) was held in Geneva on 8 December.

India-EU

The ninth India-EU High Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility was held on 12 November, in New Delhi.

Labour market Demand mapping

A comprehensive Labour market database has been compiled through 123 Missions & Posts. It outlines priority sectors, occupations, qualification and language requirements, and regulatory considerations across destination countries. The database will be made available on eMigrate portal, and shared with Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) and State Governments to support skilling alignment and mobility planning.

Welfare Schemes for Indians Overseas

The Government of India accords high priority to safety and welfare of Indian citizens living abroad. Welfare schemes like Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY), Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT) etc. proved to be critical tools towards this objective.

Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF)

The Indian Community Welfare Fund (ICWF), set up in 2009, is aimed at assisting Overseas Indian nationals in times of distress in the most deserving cases on a means-tested basis by providing emergency medical assistance, air passage to stranded Indians, legal assistance, emergency medical assistance, boarding & lodging, assistance to Indian women facing marital issues and transfer of mortal remains to India. The scheme has been revised in 2017 and has been set up in all Indian Missions and Posts abroad. The number of Indian nationals assisted in distress situations abroad has reached to 3,61,215 with a total expenditure of INR 732 Crores till date.

Pre-Departure Orientation Training Program (PDOT)

The Pre-Departure Orientation Training (PDOT) Programme was launched by the Ministry of External Affairs in January 2018 under the Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PKVY) with an aim at enhancing soft skills of Indian migrant workers, largely going to the Gulf and other ECR Countries. Under this programme, the emigrant workers are given free-of-cost one-day orientation training to enable them to understand the culture, language, tradition and local rules and regulations of the destination country. The orientation training also helps to sensitise the migrant workers about pathways to safe and legal migration and various government programmes for their welfare, safety and protection such as ICWF, MADAD, PBBY etc. Since inception of the PDOT programme, a total of 2,25,110 emigrant workers have been imparted training through 46 PDOT Centres as of November.

Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY)

The Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana (PBBY) is a mandatory insurance scheme for all Emigration Check Required (ECR) category workers going to ECR countries. The scheme provides an insurance cover of INR 10 Lakhs in case of accidental death or permanent disability and other benefits at a nominal insurance premium of INR 275 for two years or INR 375 for three years validity. The scheme was revised from 1 August 2017, to include Emigration Check Not Required (ECNR) category workers on a voluntary basis and to make settlement of claims simpler for the benefit of our workers and to ensure expeditious settlement of claims. The PBBY scheme has so far provided insurance cover to 83,88,143 Indian migrant workers till date.

Diaspora Engagement Division

In 2025, the Ministry continued its concerted efforts to strengthen India's engagement with its global diaspora comprising both Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs) and Non-Resident Indians (NRIs). The global Indian diaspora numbered over 34 million, making it the largest in the world (Annexure - VI). Of this, about 17.1 million were Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), and 17.2 million were PIOs. The countries with the largest Indian diaspora populations included the United States, the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia, Canada, Sri Lanka, South Africa, the United Kingdom,

Kuwait, Australia, and Singapore. These communities contributed significantly to their host countries while maintaining enduring cultural, economic, and emotional connections with India. Through flagship initiatives, outreach programmes, and welfare schemes, this Ministry endeavoured to strengthen its engagement with the diaspora.

During the course of 2025, Ministry continued with its several key diaspora engagement programmes like, the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention, Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA), Know India Programme (KIP), Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC), Bharat Ko Janiye Quiz, and Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) to expand and deepen engagement with the large and diverse Indian diaspora across the globe. It also addressed matters relating to marital disputes and child custody cases involving overseas Indians, issues faced by Indian students abroad, and other grievances of the diaspora community.

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is the flagship event of the government and is celebrated on 9 January biennially to mark the contribution of the Overseas Indian community in the development of India, and to reconnect and deepen India's engagement with the diaspora at the apex level. It provides a platform to the overseas Indian community to engage with the Government of India to share issues of concern and ideas to promote India overseas.

The 18th PBD Convention was held at Bhubaneswar, Odisha on 8-10 January, in partnership with the Government of Odisha. The Convention was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 9 January. President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago Christine Carla Kangaloo was the Chief Guest of the Convention, and participated virtually. Prime Minister flagged off the maiden run of the Pravasi Bharatiya Express under the Ministry's Pravasi Bharatiya Teerth Darshan Yojana, and inaugurated four exhibitions during the event.

Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji chaired the Valedictory Session on 10 January, during which she conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards (PBSA) on 27 distinguished members of the Indian diaspora (Annexure-VII). PBSA is the highest honour conferred on NRIs, PIOs, or institutions established and run by them, to recognise their achievements and honour their contributions in various fields, both in India and abroad.

The Youth PBD was held on 8 January, co-chaired by EAM and the Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports and Labour. CEO of Newsweek Dev Pragad, from the USA participated as the Guest of Honour at the event. The three-day PBD Convention comprised of five Plenary Sessions featuring diaspora panelists from across the world and witnessed participation of over 7,500 delegates from over 57 countries.



Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji chaired the Valedictory Session and conferred the Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards in Bhubaneswar, January 2025.

Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC)

The Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children (SPDC) was introduced in the Academic Year 2006-07 for the children of PIOs and NRIs to enable them to pursue undergraduate courses in Indian Universities/ Institutions and promote India as a centre of higher learning. Under the SPDC scheme, the Ministry offers 150 scholarships of up to USD 4,000 per annum for professional and non-professional courses, including medical studies and related courses, with 50 seats reserved for children of Indian workers in Emigration Check Required (ECR) countries. Since its inception, 1,687 scholarships have been awarded till the academic year 2023-24. In 2025, 433 scholarships were awarded under the scheme.

Know India Programme (KIP)

The Know India Programme (KIP) is a flagship initiative of this Ministry to engage young members of the Indian diaspora, who are Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs). It aims to strengthen the connection of PIO youth aged 21–35 years with their ancestral homeland, while enhancing their understanding of contemporary India's socio-economic development, as well as its arts, heritage, and culture. In 2025, five editions of the KIP (80th -84th editions) were conducted, with participation of 193 diaspora youth representing various countries.

Promotion of Cultural ties with Diaspora (PCTD)

Under the Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora (PCTD) scheme, the Ministry extends grants to Indian Missions/Posts abroad to support their initiatives aimed at strengthening ties with the Overseas Indian Community, and to preserve, maintain and showcase their Indian heritage and culture. The scheme aims to nourish and strengthen the cultural bonds between India and its diaspora. The scheme also supports think tanks and organisations in India that conduct events pertaining to the Overseas Indian community. In 2025, financial assistance was extended to 114 Missions/ Posts under this scheme.

Videsh Sampark Programme (VSP)

The Videsh Sampark Programme (VSP), launched in 2017, is an outreach initiative of the MEA, which aims to strengthen engagement with the State Governments of India. These outreach events, organised in partnership with the State Governments, facilitate dialogue on issues related to welfare and protection of Indian diaspora abroad, dissemination of information on Ministry's schemes, and collaboration with the State Governments for furthering welfare of the Overseas Indian community and curbing illegal migration.

A total of 12 outreach events have been organised till date in collaboration with the State Governments of Telangana, Maharashtra, Kerala, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Punjab, Haryana, Bihar, Tripura, and Uttarakhand. In 2025, a Videsh Sampark Programme was conducted in Andhra Pradesh.

Assistance to NRI Women Affected by Marital Issues

The Ministry continued to address grievances from distressed women married to overseas Indians, including cases of abandonment, desertion, harassment, and child custody disputes. The aggrieved women were provided counselling, legal guidance, and information regarding available grievance redressal mechanisms. This year, 112 such complaints were addressed by the Ministry.

Student Issues

There are approximately 1.33 million Indian students pursuing higher education abroad. The Ministry, in coordination with Indian Missions and Posts, continued to address issues concerning the welfare and safety of Indian students enrolled in foreign universities. These included visa-related challenges, exploitation by fraudulent agents, and lack of awareness regarding unaccredited or fake universities, among other concerns. During the year, Ministry had addressed several such issues aimed towards protecting and promoting the interests of the Indian students abroad, including their repatriation from Israel and Iran under Operation Sindhu during the Gaza conflict.

Viksit Bharat Run

The Ministry organised the Viksit Bharat Run in coordination with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports across 136 prominent cities of the globe, primarily involving the Indian diaspora as part of the Seva Pakhwada from 17 September-2 October. The 3-5 km run marked the Seva Parv, and celebrated service, unity, and collective national responsibility rooted in the Indian value of Seva Bhav. With the theme 'Run to Serve the Nation' the initiative promoted youth engagement, diaspora participation, and global unity. Participants took two pledges - 'Viksit Bharat' and 'Atmanirbhar Bharat', reinforcing their commitment to nation-building. A unique tree plantation drive, 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam,' was also organised to symbolise environmental responsibility and remembrance. The initiative brought together communities worldwide in a shared mission of service and pride in India's heritage, strengthening the collective resolve to build a stronger, inclusive, and developed nation.

One Stop Centres

The Ministry is in the process of establishing One Stop Centres at nine Indian Embassies and Consulates abroad including in Dubai, Riyadh, Singapore, Toronto, Doha, Muscat, Kuwait, Bahrain, and Jeddah, to support Indian women in distress in foreign lands. These Centres will provide round-the-clock assistance, including legal counselling, psychological support, and help in reaching out to local authorities for redressal of their grievances and inconveniences.

OE&PGE Division

The process of emigration of Indians holding Emigration Check Required (ECR) category passports is regulated under the Emigration Act, 1983, which is administered by the Ministry of External Affairs. The Protector General of Emigrants (PGE) enforces the Act with the help of 16 offices of the Protector of Emigrants (POEs) located at Mumbai, Chennai, Delhi, Kolkata, Chandigarh, Hyderabad, Cochin, Thiruvananthapuram, Jaipur, Raebareli, Patna, Bengaluru, Guwahati, Ranchi, Bhubaneswar and Agartala. Recruiting Agents (RAs) are required to obtain Registration Certificate (RC) from the PGE before they could engage in recruitment for overseas employment. Emigration of ECR passport holders is regulated by way of grant of Emigration Clearance (EC) by any of the above 16 POE offices for employment in any of the 19 notified ECR countries, namely, Afghanistan, Bahrain, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Malaysia, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, South Sudan, Sudan, Syria, Thailand, United Arab Emirates and Yemen.

Recruiting Agents Conclave

A one-day Recruiting Agents (RA) Conclave was organised in March. MoS (KVS) presided over the inaugural session of the Conclave with the representatives of the MEA-registered RA Associations in New Delhi. The Conclave was attended by representatives from 14 RA associations, 13 State-run RAs, 16 Protector of Emigrants, senior officers from the Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE), Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE), MEA, Resident Commissioners of State Governments/UTs and media personnel. As part of Ministry's efforts to generate awareness about safe and legal migration, MoS (KVS) also launched a Pravasi Bharatiya Sahayata Kendra social media channel which will be utilised to disseminate information about legal and safe mobility in form and content easily understood by the masses. The Conclave was organised with an objective to forge greater synergies with the RA fraternity for effective implementation of the Emigration Act 1983 and minimise the space for illegal recruitment. The Conclave also provided an opportunity to discuss and deliberate upon various facets of emigration process, upcoming opportunities and work process related challenges on the e-Migrate portal. Three thematic panel discussions focusing on Skill Development, streamlining Foreign Employer Registration, and Grievance Redressal were held during the Conclave.

Inclusion of Iran in ECR List

With a view to protect and safeguard the interests of citizens of India going to Iran for employment purpose, the Government withdrew the exemption

granted to them from the operation of Section 22 of the Emigration Act, 1983. Accordingly, the Indian emigrants holding ECR passport and travelling to Iran for employment purpose shall require Emigration Clearance from Protector of Emigrants (PoE).

Discontinuation of requirement of Country Specific Order for recruitment of nurses

To simplify the recruitment procedure, enhance administrative efficiency, and promote ease of doing business, the requirement of Country Specific Order (CSO) for recruitment of nurses from India to the ECR countries has been discontinued. However, the nurses emigrating to any of the ECR countries would continue to require the emigration clearance (EC) from the Protector of Emigrants (PoE).

The Global Mobility Conclave 2025

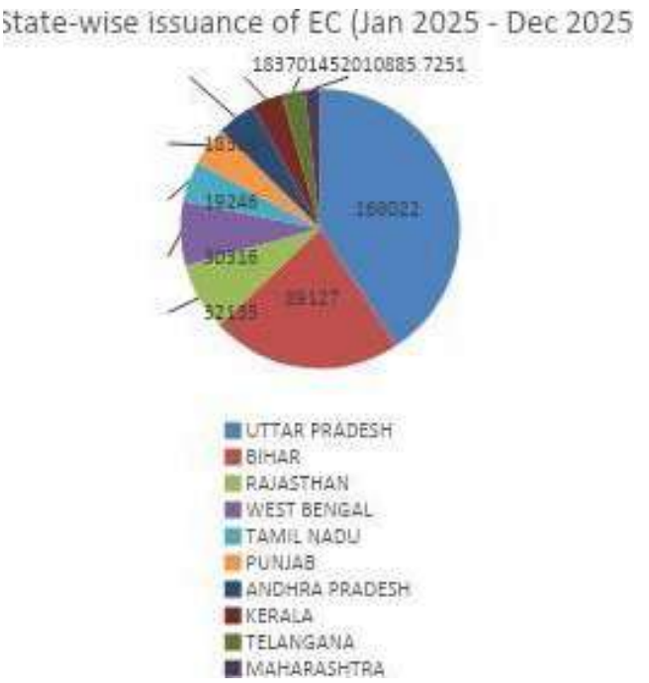
The Global Mobility Conclave 2025 was organised by the Ministry in collaboration with the NORKA Department, Government of Kerala in October at Thiruvananthapuram. The Conclave was inaugurated by the Chief Minister of Kerala and issues like ethical recruitment, skill mobility, and Kerala's evolving migration landscape were discussed during the Conclave which was well covered in the local media.

System-based allocation of Emigration Clearance applications among PoEs

In an attempt to rationalise the workload among PoE offices and improve efficiency, transparency, and service delivery, a system-based randomised distribution mechanism for allocation of EC applications has been introduced in December. This reform has made the process of allocation and processing of EC applications fully digital, logic-driven and faceless thereby ushering transparency in the whole emigration process.

Trends in migration during the year 2025

Every year, a large group of people from India go abroad for employment purposes. Major outflow of emigrant workers from India continues to the Gulf countries. During the year, a total of 4,49,110 Emigration Clearances (ECs) were issued through the eMigrate Portal for ECR passport holders emigrating to ECR countries. This includes 8,602 ECs issued to nurses emigrating to ECR countries. During the same period, eMigrate Portal also added 9,700 new Foreign Employers (FEs) and 237 new registered Recruiting Agents (RAs). 1,896 new employment-related Grievance Requests (GRs) were registered, and 667 GRs were successfully resolved. Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Punjab, Kerala, Telangana, and Maharashtra were the top 10 states in terms of the number of ECs issued during the year. The top five destination countries for ECs were the United Arab Emirates, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Oman, and Qatar.



CHAPTER

24

States Division

The States Division's main objective is to facilitate trade, investment, tourism, academic, and other external linkages of the States and Union Territories of India through coordination with (i) the Governments of States and Union Territories, (ii) Indian Missions and Posts abroad, and (iii) Foreign Diplomatic and Trade Missions in India. The States Division also facilitates the organisation of activities of the States and Union Territories in foreign countries through Indian Missions and Posts abroad. In addition, Branch Secretariats, Regional Passport Offices, and Passport Offices in India are involved in the external outreach activities of States and Union Territories with foreign investors and foreign trade missions.

Liaising with States and Union Territories through Chief Secretaries and Resident Commissioners is undertaken continuously to facilitate matters involving visits of foreign dignitaries, resident foreign Ambassadors/High Commissioners, etc. The signing of several MoUs and Letters of Intent between State Governments and their entities with foreign counterparts was facilitated in areas such as trade and investment promotion, skill development, education, health, and agricultural research. The Division also processed and facilitated Sister-City and Sister-State agreements to establish friendly and cooperative relations between Indian States and cities and foreign provinces and cities.

Funds Disbursed Under States Facilitation Abroad (SFA) Budget Head

Each year, the States Division provides funds to Indian Missions and Posts abroad from the 'State Facilitation Abroad' (SFA) budget. Although the demand for funds from Missions and Posts has been increasing annually, the States Division has been able to provide adequate funding to all Missions and Posts abroad from the allotted budget. Several State-promotion activities are organised by Missions and Posts abroad in foreign countries, and the allotted budget is optimally utilised.

Funds Disbursed Under States Facilitation and Knowledge Support (SF&KS) Budget Head

The States Division provides funds to Branch Secretariats, Regional Passport Offices, and Passport Offices in India from the 'States Facilitation and Knowledge Support' (SF&KS) budget. Based on various events and activities proposed by Branch Secretariats and Passport Offices, the States Division provides funding to support their State promotional and outreach initiatives with the diplomatic community in India. In coordination with State Governments and Export Promotion bodies, Branch Secretariats and Passport Offices organise seminars and conferences, inviting foreign investors and trade missions.

Events Organised/Facilitated by the States Division

(i) The Division hosted a webinar on 1–2 July to promote the third edition of the Uttar Pradesh International Trade Show (UPITS), held from 25-29 September. Representatives from the Ministry's Headquarters, Indian Missions and Posts abroad, and the Government of Uttar Pradesh participated in the webinar. The event resulted in the attendance of more than 550 foreign buyers from 80 countries. Russia was the partner country for UPITS 2025.

(ii) The Division facilitated an interactive meeting between the Chief Minister of Gujarat and Heads of Foreign Missions in New Delhi on 4 September as a prelude to the Vibrant Gujarat Regional Conferences.

(iii) The Division facilitated the participation of ministers, mayors, diplomats, academicians, and urban policy planners from 39 targeted foreign countries in the Kerala Urban Conclave, held on 12–13 September in Kochi, Kerala.

(iv) The Division, in collaboration with the ICC (Indian Chamber of Commerce, North East Initiative) and the Ministry's Branch Secretariat, Guwahati, organised the fourth North-East Export Promotional Meet (BSM) on 16 September in Guwahati, Assam. The event aimed to bolster trade between North-East India and neighbouring countries, namely Bangladesh, Bhutan, Nepal, and Thailand.

(v) The Division facilitated the third edition of the Indo-Pacific Economic Conclave, organised by the Bengal Chambers of Commerce & Industry (BCC&I) in collaboration with the Ministry's Branch Secretariat, Kolkata, on 18–19 September.

(vi) The Division coordinated with Resident Diplomatic Missions in New Delhi and Indian Missions and Posts abroad to facilitate the participation of foreign cultural troupes in the International Kullu Dussehra Festival, held from 2-8 October.

(vii) The Division facilitated the Tamil Nadu Global Startup Summit (TNGSS 2025), held in Coimbatore on 9–10 October. Indian Missions and Posts abroad encouraged the participation of high-level delegations and startups from partner countries.

(viii) Joint Secretary (States) participated in a prelude event to the Progressive Punjab Investors Summit 2026, 'Japan Roundtable', held on 26 November. The event was organised by the Department of Industries & Commerce, Government of Punjab, to which Ambassadors of foreign countries were invited.

(ix) The Division facilitated the participation of Energy Ministers from 20 selected countries in the Global Energy Leaders Summit, held from 5–7 December in Puri, Odisha.

(x) The Division facilitated the participation of select Ambassadors, High Commissioners, and Chargés d'Affaires from 13 countries in a curated tour of the Buddhist Circuit, organised by the Government of Telangana with the support of the Ministry, Branch Secretariat, Hyderabad, held on 8–9 December.

(xi) The Division facilitated the participation of Ambassadors and High Commissioners of all ASEAN Member States in the ASEAN–India Tourism Professionals Exchange Programme, held on 16 December in New Delhi.

Facilitation of Visit of Foreign Dignitaries

The Division facilitated visits of more than 150 foreign delegations and Ambassadors, based in New Delhi, to various States and Union Territories of India.

Twinning of Cities/ States/ UTs, MoUs/ Agreements between States/ UTs and Foreign Entities

Sr.No.	MoUs/ Agreements	Parties	MEA's NOC Date
1.	MoU between the Ministry of Commerce, Royal Thai Government, and the Department of Industries and Mines, Government of Gujarat, on the Establishment of Mutual Cooperation and Partnership	Ministry of Commerce, Royal Thai Government, and the Department of Industries and Mines, Government of Gujarat	8 January
2.	MoU between the University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, and Lanka Mahavidyalaya, Assam, India on education and research cooperation	University of Sri Jayewardenepura, Sri Lanka, and Lanka Mahavidyalaya, Assam, India	31 January
3.	MoU between Kerala Cashew Board Limited, Government of Kerala, and the Cotton and Cashew Council, Abidjan, Government of Côte d'Ivoire, for the import of raw cashew nuts.	Kerala Cashew Board Limited, Kerala, India, and the Cotton and Cashew Council, Abidjan, Côte d'Ivoire	25 March
4.	MoU to join the Indo-Swiss Innovation Platform between Team Switzerland India (represented by Swissnex in India) and the Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS)	Team Switzerland India (represented by Swissnex in India) and the Karnataka Innovation and Technology Society (KITS)	13 May
5.	Sister City Agreement between Bodh Gaya, India, and Lumbini, Nepal	Bodh Gaya, India, and Lumbini, Nepal	16 July
6.	Friendship Agreement between Ahmedabad City, India, and Hamamatsu City, Japan	Ahmedabad, India, and Hamamatsu, Japan	11 August
7.	Letter of Intent between the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in India in the field of Agriculture	Government of Tamil Nadu and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	18 November
8.	Letter of Intent between the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in India in the field of Water Management	Government of Tamil Nadu and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	18 November
9.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Commissionerate of College Education, Government of Rajasthan, and Institut Francais en Inde, New Delhi, and the Alliance Francaise of Jaipur	Commissionerate of College Education, Government of Rajasthan, and Institut Francais en Inde, New Delhi, and the Alliance Francaise of Jaipur	27 November

Sr.No.	MoUs/ Agreements	Parties	MEA's NOC Date
10.	Letter of Intent between the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands in the field of Start-ups and Innovation	Government of Tamil Nadu and the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	5 December
11.	Letter of Intent for Inter-Institutional Collaboration between Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom (the University), and Kerala Institute of Tourism and Travel Studies (KITTS), Kerala, India	Leeds Beckett University, United Kingdom (the University) and Kerala Institute of Tourism and Travel Studies (KITTS), Kerala, India	8 December
12.	Twinship Agreement between the Nabataean city of Petra, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the Ellora Caves Site, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, State of Maharashtra, Republic of India	Nabataean city of Petra, The Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, and the Ellora Caves Site, Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar, State of Maharashtra, Republic of India	19 December

In addition, the following MoUs and Agreements were also facilitated by the Division:

S. No.	MoUs/ Agreements	Parties	Division's NOC Date
1.	Letter of Intent between the Government of Uttarakhand and the German Initiative	Government of Uttarakhand and the City of Kelsterbach, the City of Raunheim, and the City of Rüsselsheim (collectively known as 'Innovation Hub Rhein Main'), Germany	7 March
2.	MoU between Sport Lisboa e Benfica, Lisbon, Portugal, and the Department of Sports & Youth Affairs, Government of Goa	Sport Lisboa e Benfica, Lisbon, Portugal, and the Department of Sports and Youth Affairs, Government of Goa	10 March
3.	MoU between Fundação Oriente, Lisbon, Portugal, and the Department of Art and Culture, Government of Goa	Fundação Oriente, Lisbon, Portugal, and the Department of Art & Culture, Government of Goa	10 March
4.	MoU for sports partnership between the State of Kerala and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation of the Republic of Cuba	State of Kerala and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation of the Republic of Cuba	9 April
5.	MoU between the Center of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Cuba, and the Malabar Cancer Centre–Post-Graduate Institute of Oncology Sciences and Research, Kerala	Center of Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Cuba, and the Malabar Cancer Centre–Post-Graduate Institute of Oncology Sciences and Research, Kerala	16 June

CHAPTER

25

New Emerging and Strategic Technologies (NEST) & Cyber Diplomacy

NEST

The New, Emerging and Strategic Technology (NEST) Division was established to engage in technology diplomacy and manage the foreign policy and international legal aspects associated with new and emerging technologies. During the year the Division functions as a nodal point within the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), keeping the Ministry updated, coordinating with domestic stakeholders, and collaborating with foreign partners amidst the rising geopolitical influence of technology. In this context, the Division actively worked to evolve and coordinate Indian positions on technology governance, strengthening India's role as a determinant player in shaping national and global perspectives on new, emerging, and strategic technologies. The Division continued to strengthen India's bilateral, plurilateral, and multilateral engagements in these areas, working closely with partner countries, international organisations, industry, academia, and start-ups.

The year 2025 was marked by significant diplomatic progress across India's key strategic technology partnerships, majorly encompassing the India-UK Technology & Security Initiative (TSI), the India-EU Trade & Technology Council (TTC), and the India-US TRUST initiative, all focused on securing technology, talent, and supply chain resilience.

The India-EU Trade & Technology Council (TTC) held its second meeting in New Delhi in February, which advanced cooperation across multiple technical and trade domains, such as enhancing the resilience of semiconductor supply chains and facilitated talent exchanges and skill development in the semiconductor field. The US-India TRUST (Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology) initiative was announced in February, during the Prime Minister's visit to Washington, DC. This initiative mandates collaboration across critical and emerging technologies - including AI, semiconductors, quantum, biotechnology, energy, critical minerals, advanced materials and space. A plan to put forward a US-India

Roadmap on Accelerating AI Infrastructure by the end of this year was announced. NEST Division supported the C-DAC's Supercomputing India Conference, the inaugural flagship conference on Supercomputing in India held in Singapore.

The India-UK TSI marked its first-year anniversary in July, where both nations affirmed their shared goal of utilizing frontier technologies for economic growth and national security. During the visit of the Prime Minister of the UK Keir Starmer, on 8 and 9 October to India, several joint initiatives were announced in sectors such as Telecom, Artificial Intelligence, and Critical Minerals.

Key diplomatic outreach and engagement across critical technology sectors were facilitated by the NEST Division throughout the year, such as organising the India-Netherlands delegation meeting on Semiconductor collaboration in March. Furthermore, the Division continued its mandated role in supporting the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) as the designated MEA nodal office, actively assisting the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy in facilitating international cooperation.

NEST Division supported the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII's) Annual International Energy Conference, held in New Delhi during September, which focused on strengthening critical mineral supply chains for the global energy transition. NEST Division's engagement highlighted India's efforts to build resilient and diversified partnerships in critical minerals, aligning with the objectives of the National Critical Minerals Mission (NCMM) and reinforcing India's role in advancing sustainable energy technologies.

The Division continued to advance India's clean energy agenda, with officials from the division participating in the European Hydrogen Week from 29 September to 3 October, Brussels, as part of the Indian delegation to strengthen global cooperation under the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

The Division played a pivotal role in the Global Fintech Fest (GFF) in October, in Mumbai. Reinforcing the vision of strategic use of technology, trust, and partnerships to drive inclusive growth and bridge economies worldwide, the Division co-hosted the "India Fintech Connect - Linking India's Fintech with the World" session with the Reserve Bank of India, showcasing India's fintech innovations to global stakeholders. The session featured presentations from 25 leading export-ready Indian fintech startups and innovators, showcasing solutions in digital payments, financial inclusion, cybersecurity, and regulatory tech. It saw participation from startup founders, Indian Missions abroad, foreign trade bodies, and investors, creating opportunities for market linkages, technology partnerships, and cross-border collaboration and advocated for the global adoption of India's DPI model as a resilient and inclusive digital framework. The division officers engaged in several tech events, namely Global Technology Summit (GTS), World Hydrogen Summit, India Space Congress, ASSOCHAM International Conference on Sovereign Tech for India's Digital Transformation, Beyond Horizon Conference in Israel, ET Energy Leadership Summit, and Financial Times Energy Transition Summit.

NEST Division organised discussions and briefing sessions on strategic and emerging technologies, such as semiconductors, green hydrogen, fintech, and geo-spatial technologies. These sessions included industry representatives briefing Indian and foreign Missions on technological advancements in India and identifying market expansion opportunities abroad.

NEST Division endeavoured to support India's growing startup ecosystem by connecting Indian innovators and deep-tech enterprises with global markets, investors, and networks. The Division engaged with leading Indian start-ups in AI, semiconductors, space tech, health-tech, fintech and sustainability to identify areas for cross-border collaboration. It supported the integration of technology-driven innovation into India's diplomatic engagements and policy outreach, helping Indian start-ups expand their global footprint.

NEST Division worked closely with line Ministries and Departments, among others, to ensure policy coherence between India's domestic technology priorities and its international engagements. The

Division participated in inter-ministerial consultations and stakeholder meetings convened to develop India's position on key global technology issues and ensured that India's diplomatic outreach supports its national innovation agenda.

NEST Division supported institutional capacity-building and knowledge development within the Ministry, particularly for its personnel and officer trainees. The Division facilitated collaborations with leading Indian think tanks, and industry associations to design training modules, expert lectures, and policy dialogues with the aim of strengthening the Ministry's internal expertise, enhancing foresight on emerging technologies, and equipping officers with the necessary skills to engage effectively in technology diplomacy and international negotiations.

To ensure broad awareness of global and domestic developments, the Division consistently published its monthly newsletter, Tech Pulse throughout the year, circulated to all Indian Missions abroad, and foreign missions in India, line ministries, State Governments, educational institutes and industry bodies. Additionally, technology inputs and updates received from Indian Missions overseas are regularly consolidated and shared by the Division with relevant domestic stakeholders to facilitate informed policy coordination and strengthen India's global technology engagement.

Cyber Diplomacy

The Cyber Diplomacy Division of the Ministry is a specialised division dealing with international developments in cyberspace and Artificial Intelligence (AI). The Division has engagements with various countries bilaterally for exploring and strengthening cooperation in cyber matters and advocates India's cyber priorities and interests at the regional and multilateral fora, including the United Nations. Bilateral cyber dialogues, regional engagements in the BRICS, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) in the information security discourses, participation in the UN processes on global cyber norms and policy developments were highlights during the reporting period. On AI, our important engagements included co-chairing AI Action Summit with France, exploration of bilateral AI initiatives, and participation in regional and global discourses in AI Governance.

Bilateral Cyber Engagements

India had bilateral cyber engagements with the European Union (EU), Israel, Brazil, and Australia during this period that explored capacity building and training cooperation, exchange of best practices and information sharing, finding synergy and complementarities in cyber policy and strategies, protection of critical information infrastructure, exchange of perspectives in global cyber norms and policy developments. The eighth India–EU Cyber Dialogue held on 20 March in New Delhi reviewed the cyber threat landscape and exchanged views on contemporary developments in cyber policies, security standards and protection of critical information infrastructure, as well as cooperation in multilateral fora on ICT security. The dialogue also explored bilateral cooperation on standardisation of 6G, security standards for telecom equipment and joint capacity building activities.

The first India–Israel Cyber Dialogue, which was held on 26 and 27 March in Jerusalem, exchanged views on the cyber threat landscape and contemporary developments in cyber policies. The dialogue explored areas of complementarities in security standards, protection of critical information infrastructure and security standards, exchange of best practices on security standards for telecom equipment, joint capacity building activities and cooperation at the multilateral forums on ICT security issues.

The bilateral cyber engagement with Australia on 9 April in New Delhi reviewed ongoing bilateral cyber mechanisms and identified focus areas for strengthening further cooperation such as cyber capacity building and training, complementarities in national cyber strategies and policies, exchange of best practices in protection of critical information infrastructure and cooperation in critical and emerging technologies, security of telecommunications network

and equipment as well as technical standards.

The first India–Brazil Cyber Dialogue and Digital Dialogue were held on 25 and 26 November in Brasilia. The cyber dialogue had exchange of views on cyber threat landscape, national cyber strategies and policies, data protection, security standards, protection of critical information infrastructure, exploration of bilateral cooperation in cyber capacity building as well as exchange of perspectives on global cyber developments in multilateral fora including the United Nations. The Digital Dialogue had exchange of views 'inter-alia' on national policies and regulatory initiatives on Data Governance, global AI developments and explored cooperation opportunities in DPIs.

Regional and Multilateral Cyber Engagements

India participated in the 10th and 11th sessions of the UN Open-Ended Working Group (OEWG) on the security of and in the use of ICTs in February and July respectively, where countries explored finding common grounds on evolution of rules, norms and principles of responsible state behaviour in cyberspace, the applicability of international law, cooperation mechanisms for capacity building and confidence building among countries. These meetings concluded by adopting a consensus report that recommended the setting up of a permanent institutional Global Mechanism under the auspices of the United Nations on developments in the field of ICTs in the context of international security and advancing responsible State behaviour in the use of ICTs. The report is particularly notable as it recommends establishing a dedicated Global ICT Security Cooperation and Capacity Building Portal, which is an Indian proposal, within the United Nations.

India participated in the ASEAN Regional Forum meetings on ICT security in March and the 11th BRICS Working Group on countering misuse of ICTs for criminal purposes in April. These meetings provided useful exchanges on the cyber threat landscape, global cyber developments, regional cyber capacity-building efforts, exploration of academic cooperation, exchange of best practices and promotion of institutional cooperation against cybercrime. India continued to support cyber capacity building cooperation under the ARF, Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA) and India-Brazil-South Africa (IBSA) frameworks to promote training, exchange of best practices, and sharing of experiences through workshops and exercises.

Developments in Artificial Intelligence

On the invitation of the President of France Emmanuel Macron, Prime Minister co-chaired the AI Action Summit in Paris on 10 and 11 February. During the Summit, Prime Minister's advocacy for collective global efforts in ensuring access to AI for all, democratisation of technology and AI applications to achieve SDGs, and development of pro-innovation led AI governance and standards found synergy with countries, especially the Global South.



Prime Minister and President of France Emmanuel Macron pose for a family photo with global leaders and tech-experts at the AI Action Summit in Paris, February 2025.

Our approach in the UN process to establish a multi-disciplinary independent International Scientific Panel on Artificial Intelligence and initiate the Global Dialogue on AI Governance was marked by our consistent advocacy on inclusivity in global discourses on AI, development and innovation-oriented AI governance, promotion of access to AI resources and AI capacity building cooperation. The completion of the inter-governmental consultations and finalisation of terms of reference, modalities, and functioning of the two UN mechanisms is a step towards universalisation of global AI discourses against the emerging fragmented and asymmetric AI governance and frameworks.

On the regional front, the BRICS Leaders' Statement on the Global Governance of Artificial Intelligence reflected India's AI priority and approaches, especially on leveraging AI for development goals, the need for pro-innovation oriented governance and frameworks, while addressing AI risks, biases and ethical concerns, equitable access to AI resources, as well as cooperation in AI capacity building and skilling.

CHAPTER

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Protocol Division

The Protocol Division was responsible for all international protocol matters, including foreign visits of the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, Hon'ble Vice-President, and Prime Minister abroad and visits to India by their foreign counterparts and foreign ministers. The Division also provided support for the organisation of international conferences and meetings held in India and was responsible for the welfare of the resident diplomatic corps, including all matters of their privileges and immunity.

During the year, the Division successfully supported the organisation of the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, Raisina Dialogue, and the India–Central Asia Foreign Ministers Dialogue. In addition, this year, the Division facilitated 10 state visits, eight official visits at the Head of Government/Head of State level, and 32 Vice-President/deputy Prime Minister/Foreign Minister level visits to India. The Division organised the visit of the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji to six foreign countries, the Hon'ble Vice President to one country, and the visit of the Prime Minister to 22 foreign destinations.

The Division also organised the credential presentation ceremony for 36 new heads of mission. During the period, two new resident foreign missions were opened in New Delhi, taking the total of such foreign missions to 164. In the same period, four new honorary consulates were opened. The period saw an addition of 204 new diplomatic posts in the foreign diplomatic corps in India.

The Protocol Division also coordinated property-related issues of foreign diplomatic missions and international organisations, and was responsible for the upkeep and maintenance of the historic Hyderabad House. The Division assisted in organising the excursion trip to Prayagraj, Varanasi, Kaziranga, and Guwahati for resident Heads of Mission during the year. The Division facilitated more than 9,300 requests for facilitation at airports and organised 368 entertainment events at the level of head of state, head of government, ministers, and secretaries.

Protocol – I Section

Protocol-I Section, under the charge of Deputy Chiefs of Protocol (Ceremonial), was mandated to handle incoming visits of Heads of State, Heads of Government, Vice-Presidents and Foreign Ministers; outgoing visits of the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, Hon'ble Vice-President and Prime Minister; entertainment engagements (official lunches, dinners and receptions on behalf of the Ministry of External Affairs); ceremonial functions; airport passes; and access to ceremonial and reserve lounges.

Protocol-I Section facilitated around 9,300 requests for airport passes, ceremonial and reserved lounges, and exemption from frisking during the period. It also handled 368 entertainment events at the level of head of state, head of government, ministers, and secretaries during the period.

Protocol-III

Protocol-III Section carried out the following work during the year 2025:

- Providing protocol facilities to Heads of Missions on their first arrival and final departure.
- Arranging Credential Ceremonies online and in Rashtrapati Bhavan, where incoming Heads of Mission handed over their Credential Papers to the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji.
- Facilitating Heads of Mission and Diplomats, wherever applicable, during Republic Day, Independence Day, the Joint Session of Parliament, the Swearing-in Ceremony of Prime Minister, Yoga Day, and other similar occasions.
- Processing Airport Entry passes every year for Foreign Diplomatic Missions and Posts in India, subject to reciprocity.
- Approval for establishing new Consulates General, Deputy High Commissions, Trade Offices, and Cultural Centres.
- Appointment of Honorary Consuls, Consuls General, Deputy High Commissioners (Heads of Posts for Commonwealth Countries) of foreign countries, and preparing exequaturs or gazette notifications thereafter.
- Appointment of Defence Attachés and defence personnel in foreign diplomatic missions, including processing approval for the creation of new diplomatic or official posts in foreign diplomatic missions.
- Arranging the Chief Guest for the National Days of foreign countries celebrated by foreign Missions in India and ensuring protocol guidelines were maintained at the venue.
- Forwarding messages from VVIPs (Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, Hon'ble Vice-President, Prime Minister, and EAM) to Heads of State and Heads of Government of foreign countries.

Status of Resident Missions, Trade Offices, Consulates General, Deputy High Commissions and Honorary Consulates approved from 1 January 2025 to 30 September 2025

Two new resident missions were approved (Honduras and Haiti). No new trade offices, cultural centres, consulates general, or deputy high commissions were created.

Three honorary consulates were established as follows:

- Kyrgyz Republic – Chennai
- Senegal – Bengaluru
- Uganda – Bengaluru
- Monaco - New Delhi

Creation of Posts

204 new posts were created during the year 2025.

Protocol (Housing) Section

The Protocol (Housing) Section looked after establishment-related matters of foreign diplomatic missions and international organisations in India. These included clearances for construction, renovation,

purchase, sale, or lease of property and allotment or lease of land in diplomatic enclaves, as well as at other locations.

The Section acted as liaison between foreign missions and international organisations and municipal and civic bodies like L&DO, NDMC, MCD, DDA, Jal Board, Electricity Board, and MTNL in Delhi, and with governments in other states. It also liaised in dispute matters between foreign missions and Indian property owners.

The Section was responsible for the maintenance and upkeep of Hyderabad House and AFS Palam in coordination with the civil, electrical, and horticulture departments of the Central Public Works Department.

CHAPTER

27

External Publicity & Public Diplomacy

The External Publicity and Public Diplomacy Division (XPD) continued to spearhead India's global outreach by amplifying foreign policy priorities through strategic communication and engagement. This was achieved through effective utilisation of digital diplomacy tools, proactive media management, and organisation of impactful outreach initiatives. These initiatives, articulated through structured campaigns and collaborations with Missions/Posts abroad, have been instrumental in reinforcing the Ministry's objective of positioning India as a responsible and influential global actor, while ensuring that the Government's message is disseminated with clarity and consistency.

The Division regularly engaged with the media through press briefings, press releases, advisories, and other initiatives, providing comprehensive insights into the Government's stance on various foreign policy issues.

New Initiatives

XPD Division undertook the following new initiatives in 2025 to advance its objectives:

'Human Cost of Terrorism' exhibition

The Division supported Missions in organising the exhibition titled 'The Human Cost of Terrorism' to highlight the profound impact of terrorism on individuals, families, and societies. The exhibition was first launched by the EAM at United Nations Headquarters at New York on 30 June for a period of 12 days. The exhibition featured photographs, videos, multimedia presentations, testimonials, and creative works by survivors from around the world, aiming to humanise the statistics and narratives associated with terrorism and foster international solidarity in the fight against the menace. It chronicled major terrorist incidents in India and abroad with a timeline, while also featuring an interactive section on global counter-terrorism efforts and recent attacks including the one in Pahalgam, India. The exhibition created a space for collective mourning, remembrance, dialogue, and policy advocacy. The exhibition reiterated that terrorism is a global scourge and can only be defeated with collective actions by the global community. It also created a space for collective mourning, remembrance, dialogue, and policy advocacy.



'The Human Cost of Terrorism' exhibition held in Embassy in Berlin, November 2025

Quiz on Decoding Indian Diplomacy

The Division organised 'Quiz on Decoding Indian Diplomacy' via MyGov Portal for a period of one month from 15 August to 15 September. A total of 17,186 participants took the quiz about the Ministry, its global operations, core foreign policy principles, landmark diplomatic initiatives, and recent developments. The quiz registered 1,23,441 views with most active participation from the age group of 18-24 years.

Strengthening Regional Media Outreach

With an aim to take foreign policy initiatives to different regions of the country, the Division expanded its regional and vernacular media outreach. Information was shared in regional languages on a real time basis to media outlets. Additionally, public diplomacy efforts by Indian Missions/Posts and relevant India related stories abroad were disseminated among regional media. This regular and timely communication contributed to increased interest and coverage of foreign policy issues in the regional media.

Engagement with the Media

Press Coverage

The Division maintained daily interactions with the media to ensure consistent coverage of foreign policy developments. Information was disseminated through various channels, including media briefings, press releases, statements, and advisories. Weekly media briefings were held to inform the broader audience about India's stance on international issues. Additionally, these briefings were live-streamed on the MEA's YouTube channel to reach a wider audience.

The Division also provided translation of press releases, background notes, responses to media queries, and so on, in 12 regional languages, including Hindi. These were disseminated to over 100 regional media outlets.

The Division coordinated arrangements for media coverage including setting up and operating fully equipped media centres and organising media briefings for the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, Hon'ble Vice President, Prime Minister, and EAM during their visits abroad. Additionally, the Division facilitated media coverage for the visits of world leaders and other foreign dignitaries to India.

Bilateral/Multilateral Visits

XPD Division covered 53 incoming and 29 outgoing visits of VVIP/VIPs during the period from January to December. Additionally, four multilateral meetings were also covered. Videos on highlights of these important visits were prepared and disseminated

through the Ministry's social media platforms. The details of visits are placed at Annexure-I.

Engagement with Foreign Media

Facilitation of Foreign Media

The Division facilitated visa, accreditation, and relevant permits for foreign journalists. It also facilitated grant of special permission to undertake journalistic activities in India to OCI card holders in foreign media organisations. Further, an authority letter for coverage of elections, and the Ministry's clearance for opening a new office of foreign newspaper/agency was issued; and guidelines and necessary clearances were issued to foreign media personnel/agencies for filming of 25 documentaries in India.

The Division also arranged regular briefings for foreign media by various Ministries of the Government, with the objective to keep them abreast of the progress being made in the country. These briefings included sessions on infrastructure developments, growth in the maritime sector, Digital India, so on and so forth.

Familiarisation Visits

The Division organised visits of foreign journalists as a part of India's public diplomacy and media outreach efforts. These visits were aimed to acquaint foreign media members with various facets of India, promoting a deeper understanding and awareness of the country's priorities, growth, contemporary society, rich heritage and vibrant culture.

During the period January to December, a total of 13 such visits were organised (nine for Journalists and four for content creators). A total of 253 journalists from 69 countries from regions across the globe visited India under this program. The Division also organised a media training programme for the officials of Government of Sri Lanka on 17-30 August, under a capacity building programme announced by Prime Minister during his visit to Sri Lanka.

During these visits, the delegates visited national and international organisations, educational institutes, cultural centers, media houses, think tanks and interacted with government and industry leaders as well as other sections of society.

Engaging Social Media Content Creators

A key objective of the visits is fostering collaborations between Indian social media influencers and their international counterparts, thereby amplifying the Indian voice abroad. In 2025, six visits were organized, where content creators/social media influencers from 53 countries participated from various regions of the globe.

Digital Outreach

Social Media Platforms

Embracing evolving digital technologies, regular and timely updates were provided on the Ministry's foreign policy initiatives, incoming and outgoing VVIP visits, bilateral and multilateral engagements, advisories, media responses, statements and speeches.

The Ministry has made significant growth of followers across multiple social media platforms such as X (formerly Twitter), Facebook, Instagram, Whatsapp, YouTube, Flickr, Soundcloud and LinkedIn. The Division regularly updated the Ministry's website to keep the world well informed about India.

X has been the most crucial medium for communication and information. The Ministry maintains two X handles - Official Spokesperson (@MEAIndia) and Public Diplomacy (@IndianDiplomacy). The @MEAIndia account has 2.3 million followers and @IndianDiplomacy 1.5 million followers. @MEAIndia continues to be one of the most followed X handles among all Foreign Ministries across the world.

With the Ministry's policy of encouraging social media engagement, Missions and Posts continue to remain engaged with various stakeholders in their respective countries through social media platforms. In terms of social media presence, 218 Indian Missions/Posts are now on X, 210 on Facebook, 175 on Instagram, and 151 on YouTube. Additionally, 35 Regional Passport Offices maintain a presence on X. These platforms have enabled effective engagement with the world,

including with the Indian diaspora. They also used local languages for broader information dissemination in their respective countries.

'MEAIndia' YouTube channel was used for live streaming of press briefings and uploading videos of other events. Full-length documentaries and short films found an exclusive online presence through the Indian Diplomacy YouTube channel @ IndianDiplomacy.

MEA's current following (subscribers) on various social media platforms:

Facebook- 2.3 million; Instagram- 1.1 million; LinkedIn- 73,000; YouTube MEA- 3,49,000; YouTube Indian Diplomacy- 1,59,000; and Whatsapp channel- 78,000.

The Division started a new 'Factcheck' account on 'X', to counter disinformation & fake news. Currently it has 37,800 followers.

Flickr (MEAphotogallery) account continued to serve as the photo-repository for the Ministry's major events, including the events abroad. MEAphotogallery has a database of about 54,443 high quality photos.

The mobile application of the Ministry (MEAIndia) continued to act as a single window source of all information related to the Ministry's citizen centric services and outreach activities.

During 'Operation Sindoor', the Ministry's Social Media handles were actively engaged for providing reliable updates on developments. They were used for live streaming of Special Media Briefings on the Operation and for conveying India's stand on various issues to set and promote narrative. Social Media platforms were used extensively for the amplification of the visits of Parliamentary delegations that visited 32 countries to convey India's message of zero tolerance against terrorism.

The Ministry along with the Missions and Posts abroad, effectively leveraged social media for engaging the global audience on various Government initiatives and campaigns. These included Mann Ki Baat, International Day of Yoga, Republic Day/ Independence Day celebrations, Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam (Plant4Mother), Viksit Bharat activities, Bharat ko Jaaniye Quiz, Chalo India and International Day of Millets. 30 winners of 5th Bharat Ko Jaaniye (BKJ) quiz from 23 countries visited India on a two-week cultural tour, commencing with their participation in the Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas on 7-8 January.

The social media handles used creative audio-visual content (such as text- based, images, short videos, reels, infographics, quote cards, GIFs, live streaming) for quick and efficient disbursal to the targeted audience.

Visual Outreach – Films and Documentaries

The Division continued to promote Indian cinema internationally with the help of the Development, Communication & Dissemination of Filmic Content (DCDFC) Scheme of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MoIB). The Division also commissioned various documentaries and short films aimed at projecting India's image abroad.

Indian Film Festivals abroad

Non-commercial screening rights of 34 films (13 Hindi, 2 Gujarati, 7 Tamil, 2 Kannada, 1 Malayalam, 3 Marathi, 3 Punjabi, 2 Assamese/Bodo, and 1 Spanish/English) procured by the Division last year were utilised in successfully organising 114 Indian film festivals, hosted by 104 different Missions/Posts, who conducted 1097 individual film screenings. These events attracted over 435,000 attendees and generated significant social media engagement, with more than 5.3 million views, likes, and shares across various social media platforms maintained by Missions/Posts.

Film festivals were also used for outreach inviting global participation in the first World Audio Visual and Entertainment Summit (WAVES) held in Mumbai on 1-4 May, which resulted in more than 1,000 international participants from 172 countries.

The Division also facilitated effective implementation

of the DCDFC Scheme of MoIB and expanded the number of Missions/Posts covered under this scheme from 52 to 100.

Documentaries/ Short Films

The following documentaries/short films were produced and uploaded on the official YouTube Channel 'Indian Diplomacy':

1. Documentary on Legislative Election in J&K.
2. Short video on 'India & Mauritius: Strengthening Governance, Strengthening Ties'.
3. Short video on 'India & Mauritius: A Timeless Partnership'.
4. A short film on the 11th International Day of Yoga.
5. Short video on 'Vision 2035: India and United Kingdom Strengthening Cooperation and Collaboration in Education Sector'

Commissioning of two short films/documentaries has been initiated- 'India-Africa Forum Summit', and 'Safe and Legal Migration'.

Promotion of Indian classical music and Bollywood songs

The popularity of Indian music continues to grow globally reflecting its universal appeal and cultural resonance across diverse audiences. Catering to this surging interest, the Division extended support to 114 Missions/Posts by providing a curated collection of Indian music. These music resources are being used by Missions/Posts for gifting to foreign dignitaries, diplomats and local communities thereby amplifying India's cultural soft power and fostering deeper people-to-people ties through the universal language of music.

Public Diplomacy

Articles Commissioned

The Division commissioned articles on various themes on the occasion of 79th Independence Day and 76th Republic Day. The articles were authored by retired Indian diplomats and eminent experts and were published in local newspapers by Indian Missions/ Posts abroad in their respective countries.

India Perspectives Magazine

The Ministry's flagship magazine 'India Perspectives' is under the process of being given a makeover and will be relaunched as a digital magazine. Since its launch, the magazine has been published in 16 languages - Arabic, Bahasa Indonesia, Chinese, English, French, German, Hindi, Italian, Japanese, Pashto, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Sinhala, Spanish, and Tamil.

'एक पेड़ मां के नाम' (#Plant4Mother)

As the nodal point for the 'Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam' campaign in the MEA, the Division, ensured world-wide implementation of this campaign through the Missions/Posts. Till December, more than 28,000 trees have been planted by Indian Missions/Posts and the Regional Passport Offices in India.

Book Committee

The 45th Book Committee selected 482 book titles under categories such as Indian classics, foreign policy and strategic affairs, technology and popular science, Hindi & Sanskrit, art & culture, religion & spirituality, children books and politics & economy, for dissemination of these titles by the Missions/Posts. Demand for approximately 42,000 copies of these titles were received from 121 Missions/Posts. Apart from this, books were also provided to Missions/Posts abroad for establishing India Corners in universities, colleges, schools, libraries and literary & cultural centres in the area under their jurisdiction.

Children Books

In order to engage young minds and familiarise them with Indian history, art, culture and heritage, the Division supported initiatives of Indian Missions/Posts of translating children's books containing Jataka Tales and other stories into foreign languages including Bangla, Chinese, Icelandic, Japanese, Khmer, Korean, Norwegian, Sinhala, Thai and Vietnamese.

India Corners

The Division continued to establish India Corners in universities, colleges, schools, libraries and literary & cultural centres abroad. This has been one of the important public diplomacy tools extensively used by Missions/Posts. Till date, more than 600 India Corners have been set by Missions/Posts and more than 300 have been proposed to be set up. The Division has expanded the suggested list of books for India Corners from 51 titles to 124 titles, ranging from classical titles to more contemporary books on India. The Missions/Posts have been provided flexibility to edit the suggested list to make it relevant to local preference. In 2025, books were provided to 20 Indian Missions/Posts in 18 countries for establishment of India Corners.

Supporting Public Diplomacy Initiatives Abroad

XPD Division continued to support several Public Diplomacy initiatives of the Missions/Posts abroad, such as:

- Financial assistance to 21 Missions/Posts for various Public Diplomacy activities such as special publications, publication/translation of books in foreign languages, celebration of establishment of diplomatic relations, media fest/symposium, 'Ek Ped Maa ke Naam', organising Indian festivals and fairs, establishment of India Corners and other Publicity and promotional events.
- Organising a digital exhibition titled 'Human Cost of Terrorism' by 19 Missions.
- Organising Indian Film Festival in Prague (Czech Republic), Bamako (Mali), Sofia (Bulgaria) and Reykjavik (Iceland).

Outreach in India

Distinguished Lecture Series

The Division revamped the Distinguished Lecture Series program, which engages universities and other academic institutions in India to inform the discourse on India's foreign affairs, its achievements and challenges, among students and youth across the length and breadth of the country. The program also serves as a strategic communication tool aimed at building a positive narrative about Indian foreign policy and the Ministry's people-centric initiatives. Between January and December, a total of 21 lectures were organized by the Division.

Mann Ki Baat

The Division coordinated with Missions/Posts to compile stories for the monthly broadcast of Prime Minister's Mann Ki Baat programme. Between January and December, inputs shared by the Ministry were covered in seven episodes of the Mann Ki Baat programme.

CHAPTER

28

Administration, Establishment, Global Estate Management & Right to Information

Administration

The Administration Division of the Ministry is entrusted with the primary responsibility of managing human resources and advancing capacity building across the Ministry's headquarters and its 224 Indian Missions and Posts abroad. The Division oversees all aspects of cadre management, encompassing recruitment, training, postings, transfers, deputations, and career progression, thereby ensuring a structured, transparent, and merit-based personnel framework. It also formulates and updates administrative regulations governing both Indian officials serving abroad and locally engaged staff in Indian Missions and Posts.

The sanctioned strength of the Ministry stands at 4,879 personnel, of which 54.9 percent are deployed in Missions and Posts overseas. The staffing pattern spans multiple cadres, including the Indian Foreign Service (IFS), IFS General Cadre, Branch B, Stenographers, Interpreters, and the Legal & Treaties cadre, collectively reflecting the multifaceted operational requirements of India's diplomatic machinery.

To maintain institutional responsiveness to evolving foreign policy imperatives, the Ministry periodically undertakes organisational restructuring exercises. These reviews enable the refinement of divisional mandates and operational responsibilities in accordance with emerging global priorities. Four new Territorial Divisions- Central America (CA), South America (SA), Northern Europe (NE), and Southern Europe (SE)- were created through the bifurcation of two existing Divisions, namely the Latin America and Caribbean (LAC) Division and the Central Europe (CE) Division.

This year, India expanded its diplomatic footprint through the establishment of one new Mission in Quito (Ecuador) and seven new Posts in Manchester (United Kingdom), Belfast (United Kingdom), Fukuoka (Japan), Boston (United States of America), Los Angeles (United States of America), Kazan (Russia)

and Yekaterinburg (Russia) after receiving Cabinet approval. These additions are in consonance with India's broader objective of deepening political, economic, and strategic engagement across regions, strengthening its presence in multilateral fora, and facilitating greater trade and consular outreach.

The Administration Division accords high priority to the effective use of technology as a means to enhance administrative efficiency and inter-institutional coordination. Key platforms in this endeavour include the MEA e-Samiksha portal, which facilitates real-time interaction between headquarters and field offices; the MEADOWS system, which streamlines transfer-related procedures; and the e-Office platform, which supports paperless workflow management. The Division also utilises the Government e-Marketplace (GeM) for the procurement of manpower and vehicle services, ensuring transparency, accountability, and standardisation in administrative processes.

The Ministry's Capacity Building Plan, operationalised in 2024, continues to guide professional development initiatives. All personnel are encouraged to actively engage with the iGOT Karmayogi platform for continuous learning and compliance-related training. Structured pre-departure programmes, multi-dimensional training modules, and mentorship schemes for new entrants have been institutionalised to facilitate professional adaptation and enhance skill sets. The Ministry focused special attention to development of foreign linguistic skills of officers, including at interpretation level. Over time, this has resulted in the creation of a large pool of officers with quality foreign language skills. The training curricula are periodically reviewed and updated to ensure optimal utilization of human resources. The Administration Division has also instituted mechanisms for the furtherance of a dedicated commitment to the holistic well-being of all Ministry personnel.

The Ministry's Internship Programme remains an important initiative to foster greater public engagement, especially among students. This year, 60 students were selected across two terms, reflecting the Ministry's continued commitment to nurturing young talent and fostering a deeper understanding of diplomacy among the youth. The selected students showcased a strong trend of fostering gender diversity with over half the selected applicants being female applicants in the past six terms (three years).

The Administration Division's approach is shown by its efficient human resource management, strategic expansion of India's diplomatic presence, sustained investment in capacity building, and adoption of modern digital tools. These efforts collectively highlight the Ministry's proactive, professional, and forward-looking orientation in advancing India's diplomatic objectives.

Establishment

The Establishment Division takes care of the Ministry's offices in various buildings (repair & maintenance, allotment, housekeeping, gardening etc.), residential accommodations (R&M of residential complexes, Integrated Facility Management Services (IFMS), allotment of regular as well as transit accommodations, coordination with MOHUA for GRPA accommodation etc.), provision of day-to-day use items viz. office equipment, furniture items, stationery, newspaper, telephone and intercom, and canteen facility. It is also the nodal point for processing tender proposals of all Missions/Posts abroad for housekeeping, supply and R&M of cars, special items viz. flags, Od'A items, brass plates and emblems, special stationery items etc.

The Ministry was one of the six Ministries/ Departments, which were allotted space in the first phase of 'Central Vista Project' of the of the Government of India. The Ministry has been allotted space in the newly developed Kartavya Bhawan-3 (KB3 3rd floor). In addition, the Division also undertakes a large number of R&M, construction, renovation, upgradation and refurbishing projects for conducting smooth movement of divisions out of South Block and into new addresses.

Under annual 'Swachhata Abhiyan', the Division coordinated a large-scale weeding-out of the old and obsolete records, wherein a target was given

to all Divisions to reduce their document storage requirement by at least 25 percent in preparation for shifting. The drive received unprecedented and overwhelming response from all Divisions, and approximately 45,000 files and three tonnes of papers were weeded out.

Under 'Swachhata Hi Seva-2025', the Division coordinated cleanliness activities across all the Ministry's offices in India (Headquarters in Delhi, all RPOs, POEs, and Branch Secretariats) and all Missions/Posts abroad under the 'Swachhotsav' theme from 17 September to 2 October, across five key focus areas, viz.: (i) Transformation of Cleanliness Target Units (CTUs); (ii) Clean Public Spaces; (iii) SafaiMitra Suraksha Shivirs; (iv) Clean Green Utsav; (v) Swachhata Advocacy events. The Division coordinated the Ministry's global activities covering transformation of 301 CTUs, conducting of 25 health camps for SafaiMitras, 52 Clean and Green Utsav, and 34 Swachhata advocacy events viz. Cyclathons and Marathons, Painting competition, Essay competitions, Waste-to-Art competition, 'Say No to Single Use Plastic (SUP) drive etc. As part of welfare measures for SafaiMitras, The Ministry upgraded and refurbished the gender friendly space cum rest area for SafaiMitras in JNB.

The Ministry embarked upon a project to implement Prime Minister's 'Surya Ghar Yojana' at the Jawaharlal Nehru Bhawan. An MoU with Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI) for installation of a rooftop solar power project under the 'Renewable Energy Service Company (RESCO)' model was signed on 22 November. It envisages implementation of the project in a time-bound manner. Once implemented, the scheme will be extended to all the Ministry offices all over India for implementation under RESCO (Pay As You Use) or CAPEX (Self Ownership) model.

The Division has finalised a dedicated portal for the e-Auction of Toshakhana items i.e. gift items received by Prime Minister, Ministers and senior government officers from foreign dignitaries. The portal is being prepared for launch.

The Ministry conducted a review of the transit accommodation facilities available to its officers at the time of incoming and outgoing movement between headquarters and Missions/Posts abroad, and upgraded them by providing a number of essential items of daily use to make the stay comfortable. The Division facilitated establishment and operationalisation of the Crèche facility at the Commonwealth Games (CWG) Residential Complex, and the Dwarka Housing Complex for use by the Ministry personnel.

Global Estate Management (GEM)

The Global Estate Management (GEM) Division actively pursued acquisition, construction, redevelopment and renovation of properties for Indian Missions/Posts abroad and RPOs/ ICCR/ POEs/ Branch Secretariats within India during the year.

In India, several projects were taken up such as the construction of a Regional Passport Office (RPO) in Kolkata. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the renovation of the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) was signed on 28 April 2024 and the work in Phase I is underway. Land has been acquired on a 60 years lease from the Andhra Pradesh Capital Region Development Authority (APCRDA) for the construction of a proposed new RPO Complex in Amaravati. The project for establishment of a Permanent Court of Arbitration (PCA) on the fourth floor of the Indian Society of International Law (ISIL) building was completed in June and the Central Public Works Department (CPWD) handed over the premises to the Economic Diplomacy (ED) Division in July. Land is also being acquired for the construction of RPO Trivandrum.

With regard to the ongoing redevelopment of the Ministry's Complex at KG Marg Project, 40.3 percent physical progress has been achieved and 46.5 percent physical progress in MEA Residential Complex – Gole Market Project has been achieved so far.

In terms of acquisitions, the acquisition of the Consul General's residence in Marseille was completed. Other

acquisitions currently under active consideration include a built-up property in Marseille (Chancery) and a plot in Kandy (for the construction of a Chancery and Cultural Centre).

Ongoing construction projects at Islamabad (construction of a Residential Complex), Jakarta (Redevelopment of Chancery, Embassy Residence and Staff Residences), Kathmandu (Construction of Chancery and Residential Complex), Phuentsholing (Construction of Chancery and Residences), Seychelles (Redevelopment of Chancery, Culture Centre and Residences) and Kuala Lumpur (Redevelopment of Chancery & Residences) are progressing. Furthermore, furniture works for some completed projects viz. Brunei (new Chancery, Embassy Residence & Staff Residences) and Port Louis (Chancery & Residences) are underway.

In addition to the above, major repair and renovation projects have been initiated and are in progress in Beijing (Comprehensive renovation of 16 residences in the new chancery complex), Colombo (Replacement of an Air Handling Unit), Dublin (Renovation of Government of India owned Staff residence in Dublin), Vienna (Renovation of Embassy Residence), Rome (Renovation of newly acquired Chancery Building and Major renovation works at Embassy Residence), Oslo (Remodelling of newly-acquired Chancery), Prague (Renovation of Embassy Residence) and Pyongyang (Renovation of Chancery and Embassy Residence).

Construction projects in Shanghai (Construction of Chancery and Residences), Singapore (Construction of Chancery building and residences) and Canberra (Construction of Additional Building adjacent to Chancery) have been initiated during the last quarter of this year.

The renovation project at Swami Vivekananda Cultural Centre in Paris made decisive progress in 2025.

Right to Information

The RTI Cell for the Ministry leads processing of applications received under Right to Information Act, 2005. The Ministry and its 210 Missions/Posts abroad have been accepting online and physical RTI applications and disposing of them in a time-bound manner.

A total of 3904 RTI applications and 219 First appeals under the RTI Act 2005, were processed in the Ministry. The applications varied in subjects such as foreign relations, administrative issues, bilateral visits and other relevant topics.

During the above period, a total of 110 CIC hearings were attended by the concerned CPIOs and a representative of the RTI Cell. All hearing matters were disposed of satisfactorily. The quarterly returns have been filed with CIC within the prescribed time period.

In collaboration with Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), the Ministry and Missions/ Posts abroad participated in a third party audit (suo motu disclosure) in a time bound manner.

Welfare Division

The Welfare Division looks after the general welfare of all employees of the Ministry. During the year, the Division rendered assistance to families of four officials of the Ministry who passed away, including ex-gratia payment from the Ministry Staff Benefit Fund (a voluntary fund sourced by employees of the Ministry).

The Division facilitated admission of wards of the Ministry officials in Engineering Courses and MBBS Courses, including the selection of 11 candidates in Engineering Courses and four candidates in MBBS Courses. The Welfare Division initiated a fresh recruitment process and selected four part-time yoga instructors through a Selection Committee, for conducting yoga classes in JNB, and the Ministry's Residential Complexes at CPC, Dwarka and CWG Village.

In addition, the Welfare Division extended help and assistance to officials of the Ministry returning from Missions to Headquarters, for admission of their wards to various public/private schools. It also dealt

with grievances of the Ministry personnel with other public authorities, such as police complaints, local disputes on a case to case basis.

The Division organised various events for the physical and mental well-being of the personnel including the Women's Mental Health Awareness program. The Ministry's employees were encouraged to participate in Inter-Ministerial and Inter-Departmental tournaments such as Athletics, Chess, Table Tennis, Football and Lawn Tennis. The Division provided funds to the Ministry's Cricket Club including cost of kits, booking of grounds, etc.

Through the Selection Committee for making appointments on compassionate grounds, one applicant was selected for the post of JSA and five applicants were selected for the posts of MTS. The division also promoted the Armed Forces Flag Day calling for generous contributions to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund.

CHAPTER

29

Implementation of Official Language Policy

During the year, the Rajbhasha and Bharatiya Bhashayein, I&T (RBB, I&T) Division of the Ministry has undertaken significant initiatives to advance India's Official Language Policy through a comprehensive scheme focused on the promotion and propagation of Hindi language. This comprehensive approach involves organising International Regional Conferences on Hindi and engaging various stakeholders, including Indian Missions and Posts abroad, Persons of Indian Origin (PIOs), Non-Resident Indians (NRIs), Non-governmental Organisation (NGOs), and cultural institutions, to promote Hindi globally.

Key events such as World Hindi Day on 10 January, Hindi Divas on 14 September, and Hindi Pakhwada have been integral to these efforts. The Division expanded its activities, markedly increasing the number of locally appointed temporary Hindi teachers in Indian Missions and Posts abroad from 25 in 2024 to 36 in 2025, further demonstrating a commitment to enhancing Hindi education globally.

Noteworthy amongst the new initiatives was the International Gita Mahotsav (IGM) 2025 held on 24-25 November. In response to a request from the Government of Haryana, the Ministry collaborated with the Kurukshetra Development Board (KDB) to celebrate the Annual Gita Mahotsav on an international scale. A total of 54 Missions and Posts abroad organised parallel events for the IGM-2025. The Ministry facilitated the participation of 22 distinguished foreign Sanskrit scholars, international invitees, craftsmen, and artists at IGM Kurukshetra, Haryana.

Additionally, translations of the Bhagavad Gita in more than 32 languages received from Missions abroad were prominently displayed at IGM Kurukshetra, highlighting the efforts to share the text with a diverse audience. The Ministry also provided INR 1.47 crores in financial support to Missions and Posts abroad for activities related to IGM-2025.

Further contributing to the dialogue on cultural and ethical considerations, a conference titled 'Dharma

and Global Ethics' in association with Nalanda University, Bihar was held on 28 November. It was followed by the 'International Sanskrit Ganga Sangam Sammelan' organised in partnership with Uttarakhand Sanskrit University, Haridwar, from 30 November to 1 December. These gatherings aim to foster collaboration and enhance appreciation for India's linguistic and spiritual heritage while actively engaging international scholars and pandits.

The RBB, I&T Division has supplied books and teaching materials to Missions and Posts abroad to promote the Hindi language. Additionally, the Division provided approximately INR 1.19 crores in financial support to these Missions and Posts to facilitate the engagement of local teachers to conduct Hindi language classes.

The Division also played a crucial role in coordinating, through Missions, the granting of scholarships to international students to study Hindi at Kendriya Hindi Sansthan in Agra, along with the necessary follow-up on their enrollment at the institute upon receiving these scholarships.

Moreover, the responsibility for monitoring the progressive use of Hindi in the Regional Passport Offices (RPOs) has been entrusted to the RBB, I&T Division, in collaboration with the Passport Seva Programme (PSP) Division. This responsibility is fulfilled through periodic inspections conducted by the Division. During this period, inspections were carried out at four RPOs: RPO Ranchi on 20 May, RPO Pune on 2 June, RPO Ghaziabad on 3 June, and RPO Delhi on 4 June.

The first Sub-Committee of the Committee of Parliament on Official Language successfully conducted official language inspections of the Ministry's subordinate offices, including RPO Guwahati (11 April), RPO Shimla (12 June), RPO Chandigarh (12 June), and RPO Patna (29 August). These inspections aimed to review the progressive use of Hindi in official work, resulting in valuable suggestions to enhance its utilisation. The Sub-Committee's recommendations are currently being implemented.

World Hindi Day was celebrated with great enthusiasm by Missions and Posts abroad, as well as at Headquarters and MEA's subordinate offices on 10 January. In addition, Hindi Pakhwada was organised from 14-28 September, in commemoration of Hindi Diwas. These events witnessed remarkable participation, including a significant turnout of foreign nationals during the World Hindi Day celebrations.

An allocation of approximately INR 2.99 crores was granted to Missions and Posts for World Hindi Day celebrations, and INR 2.62 crores for Hindi Diwas and Hindi Pakhwada events. Various competitions and activities, such as Hindi essay writing, noting and drafting in Hindi, Hindi poetry recital, Official Language-related quiz competitions, and Hindi vakyansh translation competitions, were organised during these occasions.

The Division successfully hosted the fifth Executive Meeting of the World Hindi Secretariat in Port Louis, Mauritius, on 14-16 July. This meeting convened key stakeholders, language experts, and representatives from member countries to discuss strategic initiatives to advance Hindi internationally. The event served as an essential platform for fostering international collaboration, reviewing progress, and charting the Secretariat's future directions.

Throughout the year, the Division efficiently conducted a significant volume of translation work in Hindi and English, responding promptly to requests from various Divisions at the Ministry Headquarters and our Missions and Posts abroad.

CHAPTER

30

Finance & Budget

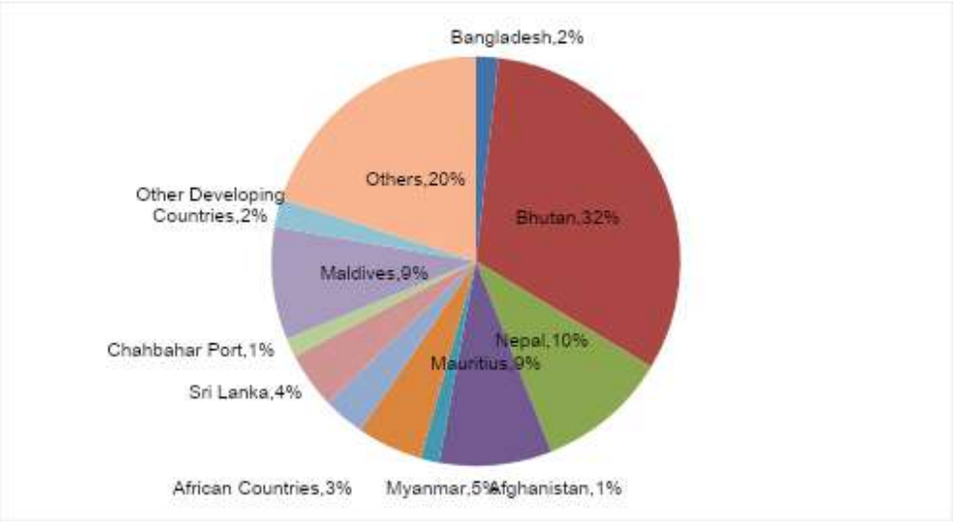
The total budget allocated to the Ministry of External Affairs for the Financial Year (FY) 2025-26 is Rs 20516.61 cr at the Budget Estimates (BE) stage.

The sectoral distribution of the budget for major allocations is as mentioned below:

Sector		Allocation (In Rs cr)
Technical and Economic Cooperation (TEC) with foreign countries	Grants	6375.00
	Loans	375.00
	Total TEC	**6750.00**
Indian Missions and Posts abroad		4206.22
Special Diplomatic Expenditure		4900.00
Passport and Emigration		1913.48
International Cooperation		953.08
Capital Outlay on Public Works and Housing		505.00
MEA Secretariat		676.44
Assistance to Autonomous Bodies and Other Institutions		394.18
Transfer to Reserve Fund(Guarantee Redemption Fund)		0.00
Others		218.21
Total BE for FY 2025-26		**20516.61**

The Development Partnership portfolio (or the Technical and Economic Cooperation), which constitutes India's aid to various countries, continues to be the focus and priority with the largest allocation in the Ministry's budget. In FY 2025-26, of the total budget of Rs 20516.61 cr, the Technical and Economic Cooperation Heads (TEC) outlay is 32.90% or Rs 6750.00 cr, of which Rs 6375.00 cr (31.07%) is for grant programmes and Rs 375.00 cr (1.83%) is for loans. The head-wise distribution of the TEC outlay in FY 2025-26 is given below:

Technical and Economic Cooperation (TEC) Heads		Allocation (In Rs cr)	% of Total TEC Allocation
Aid to Bangladesh		120.00	1.78%
Bhutan	Grant	1775.00	31.85%
	Loan	375.00	
	Total Bhutan	2150.00	
Aid to Nepal		700.00	10.37%
Aid to Mauritius		600.00	8.89%
Aid to Afghanistan		100.00	1.48%
Aid to Seychelles		19.00	0.28%
Aid to Myanmar		350.00	5.19%
ITEC Programme		180.00	2.67%
Aid to African Countries		225.00	3.33%
Aid to Sri Lanka		300.00	4.44%
Chahbahar Port, Iran		100.00	1.48%
Aid to Maldives		600.00	8.89%
Aid to Other Developing Countries		150.00	2.22%
Investment Promotion and Publicity Programme		980.00	14.52%
Indo-Pacific Cooperation		50.00	0.74%
Aid to Eurasian Countries		40.00	0.59%
Multilateral Economic Relations Programme		10.00	0.15%
Aid to Latin American Countries		60.00	0.89%
Aid for Disaster Relief		64.00	0.95%
SAARC Programmes		5.00	0.07%
Aid to Mongolia		5.00	0.07%
Aid for Cultural and Heritage Projects		20.00	0.30%
QUAD Co-operation		12.00	0.18%
Aid to Tech Infrastructure		10.00	0.15%
Total			**6750.00**



The bulk of the Ministry's Development Partnership budget, comprising about 49.19%, is allocated to the neighbouring countries under the Government's Neighbourhood First Policy, followed closely by allocation to the extended Indian Ocean Region (13.62%), extended neighbourhood (3.03%), Africa (3.33%), Latin American countries (0.89%), with the remaining allocation going towards other regions or region agnostic programmes.

Of the total budget for FY 2025-26 of Rs 20516.61, the bifurcation of allocations between establishment heads and non-establishment heads is 33.25% (Rs. 6820.86 cr) and 66.75% (Rs. 13695.75 cr) respectively. The Ministry has consistently maintained its expenditure on Establishment heads within 35% of its total budget.

The Ministry has been optimally utilising the funds allocated to it in the Revised Estimates (RE) stage of a financial year, as given below for the past ten FYs:

FY	BE Allocation	RE Allocation	Actual Expenditure	Utilization as % of BE	Utilization as % of RE
	In Rs cr; Rounded Off				
2015-16	**14967**	**14967**	**14541**	**97 %**	**97 %**
2016-17	**14663**	**13426**	**12772**	**87 %**	**95 %**
2017-18	**14798**	**13690**	**13750**	**93 %**	**100 %**
2018-19	**15011**	**15582**	**15526**	**103%**	**99%**
2019-20	**17885**	**17372**	**17272**	**97%**	**99%**
2020-21	**17347**	**15000**	**14362**	**83%**	**96%**
2021-22	**18155**	**16000**	**14174**	**78%**	**89%**
2022-23	**17250**	**16973**	**16685**	**97%**	**98%**
2023-24	**18050**	**29122**	**29003**	**161%**	**99%**
2024-25	**22155**	**25277**	**25537**	**115%**	**99.84%**

The Ministry has revenue receipts of Rs 5963.67 cr in FY 2024-25, from passport services (Rs. 3627.23 cr), visa fees (Rs. 1488.38 cr), and other receipts (Rs. 848.06 cr). The revenue receipt for the last five financial years from FY 2020-2021 to FY 2024-2025 is given below:

Year	Heads	Amount	Percentage
2020-21	Passport	583.56	77%
	Visa	24.85	3%
	Others	149.73	20%
	Total	**758.14**	
2021-22	Passport	2332.50	66%
	Visa	316.93	9%
	Others	874.18	25%
	Total	**3523.61**	
2022-23	Passport	3360.03	59%
	Visa	1440.10	25%
	Others	937.89	16%
	Total	**5738.02**	
2023-24	Passport	3543.66	61%
	Visa	1396.91	24%
	Others	881.59	15%
	Total	**5822.16**	
2024-25	Passport	3627.23	61%
	Visa	1488.38	25%
	Others	848.06	14%
	Total	**5963.67**	

Details and Status of C&AG Paras and PAC Paras:

A. C&AG PARAS:

During the year 2025-26, a total of 27 C&AG Paras relating to the Ministry were received, and ATNs of two C&AG Paras from 2024-25 are under process. The status of ATNs with respect to the C&AG Paras is as follows:

Year	C&AG Report	Total No. of Paras	Final ATNs Submitted	ATNs Under Process
2024-25	Report No. 21 of 2023	2	-	2
2025-26	Report No.31 of 2022	7	5	2
	Report No. 07 of 2021	3	-	3
	Report No. 4 of 2025	7	-	7
	Report No. 16 of 2025	8	-	8
	Report No. 22 of 2025	2	-	2
	Total	**29**	**5**	**24**

B. PAC PARAS:

During the year 2025-26, four PAC Observations/Recommendations relating to the Ministry were included in the 26th Report of PAC (2025-26) on action taken by the Government on the observations and recommendations of the Committee contained in their 87th Report (17th Lok Sabha).

Year	PAC Report	Total No. of Paras	Final ATRs Submitted	ATRs Under Process
2025-26	26th Report of PAC (2025-26)	4	-	4
	Total	**4**	**-**	**4**

CHAPTER

31

Parliament & Coordination Division

The responsibilities of the Parliament & Coordination Division broadly include parliamentary work, coordination within and outside the Ministry, participation in nationwide campaigns carried out by other Ministries, monitoring and reviewing of MoUs signed by India with other countries, admission of certain categories of foreign students to Indian educational institutions, and uploading the Ministry's inputs on various digital portals to facilitate digital monitoring of work.

Parliament Section

The Parliament Section serves as the Ministry's interface with Parliament and acts as the nodal point for all Parliament-related work of the Ministry. The Section ensured a timely response to the issues raised by Parliament, in compliance with the guidelines laid down for Parliamentary work.

During the calendar year 2025, the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs held sittings on the following subjects:

- Indian Diaspora Overseas, including NRIs, PIOs, OCIs, and Migrant Workers: All Aspects of their Conditions and Welfare, including the Status of the Emigration Bill
- Current Foreign Policy Developments
- Demands for Grants of the Ministry for the Year 2025–26
- Future of India-Bangladesh Relationship
- India's Role and Presence in the Arctic and Antarctic Regions
- Current Foreign Policy Developments regarding India and Pakistan
- Evaluation of India's Indian Ocean Strategy
- Current Developments in India's Foreign Policy with special reference to US-India Trade Negotiations and Tariffs
- India-Europe Relationship: Opportunities and Challenges
- India-Sri Lanka Relations and the Way Ahead

- India's role in Global Tech Diplomacy, Digital Governance, Outer Space Diplomacy, AI, and Emerging Innovations
- Understanding India-China Relations and the Way Forward

Under the Chairmanship of EAM, one Consultative Committee meeting each was held on the subjects 'India and Neighbours: Bangladesh, Maldives, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka' and 'Countering Cross-Border Terrorism' on 22 March and 26 May, respectively.



EAM chaired the first Consultative Committee Meeting of 2025 for External Affairs, engaging in discussions on India's ties with Bangladesh, the Maldives, Myanmar, and Sri Lanka.

Since 1 January, a total of 40 matters of significance have been raised in Parliament under Special Mention, Rule 377, and Zero Hour. Responses have been provided to all but two of these matters. In addition, replies have been furnished to 459 admitted Parliamentary Questions.

During the year, the Annual Reports and audited Accounts of the Indian Council for Cultural Relations, South Asian University, and Nalanda University were laid before Parliament.

Coordination Section

The Ministry, through its Missions and Posts abroad, played a key role in the celebration of flagship events of the Government of India overseas, such as Har Ghar Tiranga, Rashtriya Ekta Diwas/Week, Constitution Day, Ayurveda Day, International Women's Day, and Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, among others.

The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA), an initiative of the Government of India, was launched by Prime Minister on 9 April 2023, commemorating 50 years of Project Tiger, with the objective of establishing a platform to promote the conservation and protection of the seven Big Cats of the world. To operationalise the Framework Agreement for IBCA, the matter was followed up by the Parliament & Coordination Division, and the agreement came into force on 23 January 2025, following its ratification, acceptance, or approval by five countries. The Government of India has provided one-time financial support of USD 18 million for the project and signed the Headquarters Agreement in April, which designates India as the host for the IBCA Headquarters and Secretariat. 14 countries, namely India, Cambodia, Eswatini, Liberia, Nicaragua, Somalia, Guinea, Bhutan, Suriname, Armenia, Nepal, Rwanda, Ethiopia, and Mongolia, have already signed the Framework Agreement.

The Coordination Section processed political clearances for visits abroad, sports events, conferences, seminars, exhibitions, and diplomatic or military flights.

The Ministry launched an online portal in April this year to facilitate applications for the grant of political clearances to foreign nationals to attend or participate in conferences, seminars, workshops, and sports events organised in India by the government or private bodies in a streamlined manner.

The Parliament & Coordination Division served as the nodal division for facilitating the visits of seven all-party delegations to key nations from late May to early June, in connection with Operation Sindoor, underscoring India's collective resolve against terrorism. The delegations comprised Members of Parliament, non-government representatives, political figures, former Ambassadors, and officials of the Ministry.

Approximately 225 Action Points were monitored and updated monthly on the eSamikSha Portal concerning Cabinet decisions, observations of the Cabinet, recommendations of the Committee of Secretaries, the Vision Document of the Ministry (SGOS-10), progress

on the implementation of Pragati Projects funded or administered by the Ministry, and other related matters. Additionally, 29 announcements made by Prime Minister during his visits abroad are being regularly updated on the PMO References Portal.

A special campaign was undertaken for the timely and effective disposal of pending public grievances, references from Members of Parliament, State Governments, inter-ministerial consultations, and Parliamentary assurances; the conduct of cleanliness drives; and the management of records (files). The Ministry participated in the Special Campaign 5.0 on Swachhata across its Missions worldwide. The Campaign ran from 2 October to 31 October.



As part of Special Campaign 5.0, the Ministry undertook a range of activities to promote environmental consciousness, health, hygiene, and civic responsibility, including cleanliness drives and plantation activities, community-driven initiatives such as park and sea-beach clean-ups, consular camps across Missions as part of citizen-centric activities, and the Viksit Bharat Run.

The main focus areas of the Campaign included e-waste management, cleanliness drives, Swachhata awareness activities, citizen-centric initiatives, effective disposal of public grievances, references from Members of Parliament, parliamentary assurances, disposal of scrap, and weeding out of obsolete files. During this period, the Ministry conducted 949 cleanliness drives, including Swachhata awareness activities. A total of 1,71,241 physical files were weeded out, freeing approximately 19,964 sq. ft. of space. Additionally, revenue of INR 3,09,361 was generated through scrap removal. Furthermore, 644 public grievances were resolved, and 11 PMO references and 57 MP references were addressed.

Monitoring Cell

The Monitoring Cell coordinates the review of MoUs and Agreements signed with foreign countries by various Ministries and Departments of the Government of India, assessing their continued relevance and status. The Ministry liaised with and followed up regularly with the line Ministries, Divisions within the Ministry, and India's Missions and Posts abroad.

This year, of the total 3,382 MoUs and Agreements, 265 were reviewed. Of these, 247 MoUs were continued, while 18 were identified for discontinuation.

Education Section

The Education Section of the Ministry managed the selection, nomination, and admission of foreign students from 57 friendly neighbouring and developing countries for MBBS, BDS, B.Arch., B.E., B.Tech., B. Pharmacy, and Diploma courses in Engineering and Pharmacy at various government institutions in India under the Self-Financing Scheme, against seats allocated to the Ministry by the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and the Ministry of Education. Persecuted religious minority migrants from Afghanistan, Bangladesh, and Pakistan residing in India were also offered seats under this scheme.

During the academic year 2025–26, 26 eligible applicants were allotted seats in the B.E., B.Tech., B.Arch., and B. Pharmacy courses. A total of 252 applications were received for MBBS and BDS courses from foreign nationals and persecuted migrants from minority communities residing in India.

The Education Section also processed political clearances for foreign students attending elective training, observerships, and short or long-term training programmes, as well as those appearing in various postgraduate medical and allied entrance examinations. Clearances were also issued for foreign students studying Hindi at the Central Institute of Hindi (KHS), Agra, and for Research Visas.

CHAPTER

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Conferences & Summits

The Summits Division provides comprehensive logistical support to various Divisions of the Ministry for the successful organisation of meetings, events, seminars, and conferences, including high-level International and Multilateral engagements involving Foreign Ministers and distinguished delegates visiting India.

The Division's support encompasses engagement of event management agencies, venue booking, hotel accommodation for delegates, transport arrangements, access control, and provision of food and beverage services, ensuring seamless execution of events of national and international significance.

During the year 2025, the Summits Division extended logistical assistance for the following major events:

a) First India–League of Arab States (LAS) Universities' Presidents' Conference, held on 5–6 February at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan (SSB), New Delhi.

b) Quad Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness for countries of the Indo-Pacific region, held on 17–19 March at SSB, New Delhi.

c) 11th International Day of Yoga, organised on 21 June at Nehru Park, New Delhi.

d) Third QUAD Counter-Terrorism Working Group (CTWG) Meeting and Sixth QUAD Table Top Exercise (TTx), held on 4–5 December.

In addition, the Summits Division functions as the nodal Division for Sushma Swaraj Bhawan (SSB), facilitating the conduct of a wide range of multilateral and inter-ministerial engagements. Around 450 internal meetings pertaining to MEA and 50 meetings related to other Ministries/Departments were held in SSB this year. The Division continues to receive and respond to requests to organise meetings at short notice, demonstrating its operational readiness, institutional capacity, and commitment to ensuring the smooth and professional conduct of high-profile engagements and multilateral meetings.

CHAPTER

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Rapid Response Cell

Rapid Response Cell (RRC) is the nodal division of the Ministry to undertake the Government's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) efforts worldwide. Established in 2021 with a focus on COVID-19-related responsibilities, the RRC has been actively engaged in HADR operations following disasters and providing need-based humanitarian assistance to partner countries globally.

The RRC's mandate also includes evacuating Indian nationals from crisis-affected areas. Additionally, the RRC plays a key role in expanding the Ministry's health diplomacy initiatives, including the Quad Health Security Partnership (QHSP), Digital Health Initiatives for Indo-Pacific countries, recognition of the Indian Pharmacopoeia (IP) by partner nations, and the establishment of Janaushadhi Kendras in partner countries.

Major Developments

Between January and December, India conducted complex, rapid operations to meet the diverse needs of disaster-stricken partner countries. India's HADR efforts have expanded significantly beyond the neighbourhood to include regions in Africa, Latin America, the Caribbean, and Oceania. Additionally, India responded swiftly and effectively to assist Indian nationals stranded overseas.

In line with its established reputation as a 'First Responder and Credible HADR Provider,' India carried out four major operations in 2025: Operation Brahma, Operation Sindhu, repatriation of Indian nationals from the Myanmar-Thailand border, and Operation Sagar Bandhu. Furthermore, HADR assistance was extended to more than 20 countries throughout the year.

Operation Brahma

On 28 March, a 7.7 magnitude earthquake struck Myanmar, resulting in over 3,000 deaths and 5,017 injuries, alongside widespread destruction. The earthquake damaged homes, hospitals, schools, and

essential infrastructure, including airports, roads, buildings, and bridges. In response to the devastation, a state of emergency was declared in six of the most affected regions, where entire communities were displaced, forcing people to seek shelter in makeshift conditions. This situation disrupted markets, worsened psychosocial distress, and brought essential services, such as food, clean water, sanitation, and healthcare, to the brink of collapse.



In the aftermath of the devastating earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand, INS Satpura and INS Savitri sailed for Yangon, as part of the Indian Navy's immediate HADR response under Operation Brahma, March 2025

Within hours of the disaster, India launched Operation Brahma to provide HADR to the people of Myanmar. The first shipment of relief aid arrived in Myanmar on 29 March. During the operation, India provided approximately 1000 MT of HADR supplies, including tents, blankets, sleeping bags, hygiene kits, generators, essential medicines, medical consumables, and food aid such as rice and cooking oil. Additionally, India sent 20 prefabricated structures and cement to support the rehabilitation of government offices.

To assist in the search and rescue efforts in Mandalay, India deployed NDRF's 80-member Heavy Search and Rescue (SAR) specialist team. A 127-member Indian Army Field Hospital team (60-para) was also dispatched to Mandalay, where they treated 2,519 patients. Furthermore, a six-member Engineer Reconnaissance team from the Indian Army was sent to Mandalay and Naypyidaw to assess structural damage and recommend restoration of the affected infrastructure.

Nine IAF aircraft and five IN ships were deployed to deliver the aforementioned assistance. Operation Brahma represented India's whole-of-government endeavour to respond to the extensive destruction in Myanmar and to demonstrate solidarity with its people.

Operation Sindhu

India launched Operation Sindhu on 18 June to evacuate Indian nationals from conflict zones in Iran and Israel. A total of 4415 Indian nationals (3597 from Iran and 818 from Israel) were evacuated through 19 special evacuation flights, including three IAF C-17 aircraft. Additionally, 14 OCI card-holders, nine Nepali nationals, four Sri Lankan nationals, and one Iranian spouse of an Indian national were also evacuated from Iran.



Indian Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs welcomed Indian nationals repatriated under Operation Sindhu from Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, who were residing in Israel upon their arrival in New Delhi, June 2025

Repatriation of Indian nationals from Myanmar-Thailand border (ongoing)

India, with the support of Myanmar and Thailand, has been actively facilitating the repatriation of Indian nationals trapped in online scam centres operating in regions along the Myanmar-Thailand border. Since March, a total of 1,500 Indian nationals were repatriated, including a recent operation in November. These efforts are being undertaken in coordination with Thai authorities, with rescued individuals transiting through Mae Sot and returning to India on special or commercial flights via Bangkok.



India arranged for the safe repatriation of 266 Indian nationals who were released from cyber-scam centres in Southeast Asia, March 2025

Operation Sagar Bandhu

In response to Cyclone Ditwah in Sri Lanka, India launched Operation Sagar Bandhu on 28 November to provide HADR to the affected population. Within the first three days following the cyclone, India delivered a total of 53 tonnes of emergency relief materials. This included 9.5 tonnes of emergency dry rations delivered by INS Vikrant and INS Udayagiri, 31.5 tonnes of relief materials airlifted by three IAF aircraft (two C-130Js and one IL-76), and 12 tonnes of essential supplies delivered by INS Sukanya.



INS Vikrant handed over emergency relief provisions for distribution to Cyclone Ditwah-affected communities in Colombo, Sri Lanka, December 2025

Overall, under Operation Sagar Bandhu, India provided over 1,100 tonnes of relief supplies to Sri Lanka. The aid included emergency dry rations, tents, tarpaulins, blankets, hygiene kits, ready-to-eat food, essential medicines, and two BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri) modular trauma cubes. Also, an Aarogya Maitri team operated a medical unit for several days, using the BHISHM cubes to provide urgent medical assistance and conducted on-site training for Sri Lankan Air Force medical officers.

Additionally, India established a fully modular Indian Army Field Hospital, equipped with ambulances, trauma care units, operating theatres, and 73 medical personnel, along with 500 mobile water purification units to address urgent medical needs. The aid was transported to Sri Lanka through IAF special flights and Indian military ships.

India was the first country to deploy trained disaster responders, including 80 NDRF personnel and a K9 Search and Rescue unit. Furthermore, two Chetak helicopters from INS Vikrant and the IAF's two Mi-17 V5 helicopters were deployed to rescue vulnerable groups in coordination with the Sri Lankan Air Force. The rescued individuals included nationals from Sri Lanka, India, Germany, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, South Africa, Poland, Belarus, Iran, Australia, Pakistan, and Bangladesh. In addition, over 2,500 stranded Indians were evacuated via special IAF flights and commercial flights.



Indian Navy's two Chetak helicopters from INS Vikrant were deployed to rescue vulnerable groups in coordination with the Sri Lankan Air Force under Operation Sagar Bandhu, November 2025

To support early recovery and restore critical infrastructure, four modular Bailey Bridge systems were delivered along with specialised Indian Army Engineer teams by four IAF C-17 Globemaster aircraft. Operation Sagar Bandhu in Sri Lanka aligns with India's commitment to its neighbours under the Neighbourhood First policy and Vision MAHASAGAR.



Under Operation Sagar Bandhu, Indian Army's Engineer Task Force launches a 120-foot Dual Carriageway Bailey Bridge to restore road connectivity disrupted by Cyclone Ditwah in Jaffna, Sri Lanka, December 2025

HADR Efforts

Equatorial Guinea

As a Global South partner, India extended a helping hand to Equatorial Guinea by providing a medical consignment of 10 tonnes of medical aid, including anti-retroviral drugs, diagnostic kits for HIV/AIDS management, medicines for symptomatic treatment and supplements. The consignment was delivered in January.

Sao Tome and Principe

Reaffirming its commitment to the Global South, India provided humanitarian assistance of medical supplies comprising life-saving and essential medicines, including insulin, blood glucose monitors and strips, human albumin, ORS, etc, for the main hospital in the country on the request of the Sao Tome & Principe in January.

Cuba

In the wake of Hurricane Rafael, a category-III hurricane that caused severe damage to housing, electrical infrastructure and crops, India delivered approximately 43 tonnes of medical aid to Cuba. This aid included essential medicines such as antibiotics, anti-pyretics, painkillers, oral rehydration salts (ORS), and muscle relaxants. The assistance was provided in four shipments between January and June.

Additionally, following the widespread devastation caused by Hurricane Melissa, India delivered around 20 tonnes of HADR supplies to Cuba in November. This delivery reaffirmed India's commitment to global solidarity and disaster response. The consignment included the BHISHM modular trauma unit, generators, tents, bedding, mats, kitchen and hygiene kits, solar lanterns, and other essential materials to support post-hurricane recovery.

Iraq

India donated a shipment of over 700 kilograms of essential medicines and medical equipment to the Halabja Governorate in January, reaffirming

its commitment to humanitarian assistance and strengthening ties with the Kurdistan Region of Iraq.

Yemen

India provided 25 tonnes of essential medicines and medical equipment to the Republic of Yemen as humanitarian assistance in February. This aid includes vital medical supplies such as advanced antibiotics, anti-HIV drugs, anti-malarial treatments, and multivitamins. It also features critical medical equipment, including CBC devices, ultrasound machines, dental chairs, and autorefractometers.

Furthermore, India again provided humanitarian assistance to Yemen in the form of medical aid to combat outbreaks of cholera and other febrile illnesses in November. The aim of this medical aid is to address urgent healthcare needs in Yemen and provide essential support to local medical facilities and communities.

Vanuatu

India and Vanuatu share a close friendship and partnership under the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC). As a gesture of solidarity with the friendly people of Vanuatu, India provided 20 tonnes of HADR, including medical aid and disaster relief material. This aid was delivered in February, following a devastating 7.4-magnitude earthquake that struck Vanuatu in December 2024.

Sudan

India sent approximately two tonnes of life-saving medicines, including anti-cancer drugs, as humanitarian assistance to the people of Sudan in February. This initiative is part of India's broader commitment to fostering international cooperation and solidarity in healthcare.

Honduras

In response to the devastating impact of Tropical Storm SARA, which struck Honduras in November 2024, India extended 26 tonnes of humanitarian assistance, including disaster relief materials and medical supplies such as glucometers, oximeters, globes, syringes, blankets, and hygiene kits in February.

Djibouti

India supplied 20 Haemodialysis machines and one RO Plant to Djibouti aboard the ICGS Sachet to strengthen Djibouti's health infrastructure in March.

Botswana

In the wake of floods, India supplied 15 tonnes of disaster relief and medical supplies, including essential medicines, surgical supplies, mosquito nets, and water purifiers in March.

Sri Lanka

In March, India donated 50,000 ampoules of Furosemide injection in response to an urgent request to address a critical shortage in hospitals. Furosemide injection is an essential emergency medicine used in the treatment of fluid retention (oedema) and swelling associated with congestive heart failure, liver disease, kidney disorders, and other medical conditions. India has been a steadfast supporter of Sri Lanka's healthcare sector, and this latest assistance further underscores India's commitment as a reliable and responsive healthcare partner in the region.



India gifted 50,000 ampoules of Furosemide injection to Sri Lankan Minister of Health and Mass Media Nalinda Jayatissa to address the immediate shortage in Sri Lankan hospitals, March 2025

Bolivia

To tackle the environmental crisis and health issues caused by forest fire in the Amazon region of Santa Cruz, Beni and Pando regions in Bolivia, India sent humanitarian aid of fire-fighting equipment, viz, fire-fighting gears, first-aid kits, medicines and other utilities to Bolivia in two tranches in January and April.

India also supplied 3,00,000 doses of Measles and Rubella (MR) vaccines, along with the necessary supplies for administration to Bolivia on a grant basis following the Measles outbreak in Bolivia in July. In addition, India also provided humanitarian assistance in the form of medical supplies.

Afghanistan

In a significant humanitarian gesture, India donated 4.8 tonnes of vaccines to Afghanistan in April to help combat Rabies, Tetanus, Hepatitis B, and Influenza, potentially saving thousands of lives across the country. This vital consignment underscores India's enduring friendship with the people of Afghanistan and the deep-rooted people-to-people ties between the two nations.

Further, India has extended continued humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan by supplying medical equipment and consumables to the 300-bed and 400-bed hospitals in Kabul. This support aims to enhance the country's healthcare infrastructure through phased deliveries.

For the 400-bed hospital, three tranches were supplied: first tranche of 626.56 kg was delivered on 18 May, second tranche of 554.54 kg on 11 June, and third tranche of 877.89 kg on 6 October. For the 300-bed hospital, two tranches were delivered in September and October, respectively. These efforts reaffirm India's unwavering commitment to the well-being of the Afghan people and its resolve to support Afghanistan's health sector through humanitarian cooperation and goodwill.

India also provided multiple humanitarian relief consignments to Afghanistan following the August-November earthquake period. On 2 September, India airlifted 21 tonnes of relief items, including family tents, blankets, sleeping materials, hygiene kits, medicines, generators, kitchen sets, water purifiers, and water storage tanks to Kabul. On 15 September, additional tents, blankets, and medical kits were provided.

After another strong earthquake in early November, India sent 15 tonnes of food supplies, such as wheat flour, pulses, rice, oil, and baby food, by air on 3 November. This was followed by another consignment of approximately 75 tonnes of medicines, medical devices, and equipment delivered in November and December. Overall, the relief support focused on assisting displaced families in need of temporary shelter, food, and medical assistance.

Additionally, India supplied a consignment comprising 31,867 doses each of Meningitis and Influenza vaccines in May, November, and December to support Afghanistan's ongoing public health initiatives. A shipment of medicines for vector-borne diseases was also delivered in October. These efforts reflect India's steadfast partnership with the people of Afghanistan and its commitment to supporting the country's healthcare resilience and recovery.

Nepal

Reaffirming its Neighbourhood First policy, India extended medical assistance to Nepal, comprising medicines and vaccines for patients suffering from Thalassemia and Sickle Cell Disease in April. The consignment included Influenza Vaccine, Salmonella Vaccine, Meningococcus Vaccine, Haemophilus Influenza Vaccine, and Streptococcus Pneumonia Vaccine.

These vaccines will play a crucial role in improving the quality of life of individuals affected by Sickle Cell Disease and Thalassemia in Nepal. This gesture stands as a testament to the close bonds of friendship and cooperation between India and Nepal. It reflects their shared vision for a healthier, more resilient future for their citizens.

Following the devastating floods and landslides caused by heavy rains in Nepal on 3-5 October, which resulted in extensive infrastructure damage

and disrupted connectivity in several areas, India has promptly responded to Nepal's urgent request for assistance. In November, India dispatched the first set of Bailey Bridges, with an additional nine sets scheduled for delivery progressively over the next five months. This response illustrates India's strong commitment to supporting Nepal's disaster recovery efforts and enhancing bilateral cooperation during challenging times.

Cameroon

India reaffirmed its commitment as a reliable partner to Cameroon during challenging times by providing humanitarian assistance. In June, India delivered relief materials, life-saving essential medicines, and 1,000 MT of rice to support the victims of the devastating floods that affected the Far North Region of Cameroon in 2024. This action reflects India's solidarity with the people of Cameroon in their time of need and aims to strengthen cooperation among the nations of the Global South.

Syria

In July, India delivered a 5 MT consignment of humanitarian assistance, including life-saving medications such as anti-cancer drugs, antibiotics, and anti-hypertensives to Syria. This act symbolises India's significant goodwill toward the Syrian population.

Somalia

India sent a 10-ton consignment of humanitarian assistance, including essential medicines, surgical items, hospital supplies, and biomedical equipment in July.

Maldives

In July, India gifted two BHISHM cubes to the Maldives. The cubes are mobile medical units that can be rapidly deployed in emergencies and are designed to enhance the Maldives' disaster preparedness. Each cube is equipped to handle up to 200 emergency cases, including trauma, burns, and fractures. Prime Minister handed over the cubes to the President of Maldives Mohamed Muizzu during his visit on 25 July.

Mozambique

India initiated a humanitarian outreach program and provided 20 MT of HADR material to Mozambique. This aid includes medicines, surgical supplies, and consumables, delivered as part of India's MAHASAGAR vision.

The first shipment was sent through ICGS Sachet on 11 October. A second shipment was dispatched by sea in December. These efforts demonstrate India's commitment to enhancing Mozambique's public health and disaster management capabilities. Future plans include organising medical camps and artificial limb camps in collaboration with Indian donors.



The first tranche of India-gifted medicines and equipment to Mozambique was handed over to the Mozambique Minister of Health in Maputo, October 2025.

Indonesia

In October, India responded to a request from Indonesia by supplying Prussian Blue capsules to help address contamination from Cesium-137. This action reaffirms India's role as a First Responder and its commitment to MAHASAGAR vision and regional cooperation. The provision of Prussian Blue capsules aided Indonesia in its efforts to mitigate potential nuclear or radiological emergencies, specifically those involving Cesium-137 contamination.



India swiftly mobilised and gifted required Prussian Blue capsules to Indonesia to mitigate the effects of Caesium-137 contamination, October 2025.

Peru

In a show of solidarity with its partners in the Global South and to reaffirm friendship and support during natural disasters, India dispatched a 32-ton humanitarian aid consignment to Peru. This aid aims to address the urgent needs of communities devastated by recent floods and landslides. Delivered in November, the shipment includes essential medicines, 250,000 units of saline solution to treat dehydration, tents, food packages, and water purification materials.

Timor-Leste

A severe rabies outbreak is currently underway, leading to a significant shortage of rabies vaccines and posing a serious threat to public health and safety in Timor-Leste. In response, India provided humanitarian assistance by supplying 10,000 doses of rabies vaccine and 2,000 doses of Rabies immunoglobulin for human use. Delivered in November, the assistance will help contain the ongoing rabies outbreak in Timor-Leste, strengthen collaboration in the healthcare sector, and further affirm India's role as a reliable partner.

Fiji

India reaffirmed its strong commitment to enhancing public health cooperation and supporting Fiji in its efforts to combat the rising incidence of HIV. In November, India provided more than three tonnes of Anti-Retro Viral (ARV) drugs to Fiji as grant assistance. This delivery marked the largest single consignment of medicines ever gifted by India to Fiji. The aim was to augment the current supply and ensure uninterrupted access to treatment for people living with HIV in Fiji, especially in light of the recent surge in reported cases.

Venezuela

In November, as part of its commitment to humanitarian assistance, India sent a consignment of 2.7 tonnes of life-saving vaccines to address the significant challenges faced by Venezuela's national vaccination program.

Seychelles

India reaffirmed its commitment to supporting Seychelles' development priorities by supplying a consignment of 3.5 tonnes of medicines in November. These medicines were intended for cardiovascular diseases, diabetes, gastrointestinal ailments, and vitamins and supplements.

Jamaica

Demonstrating its commitment to global solidarity and disaster response, India delivered around 20 tonnes of HADR supplies to Jamaica in November, following widespread devastation from Hurricane Melissa. The consignment included the BHISHM modular trauma unit, along with generators, tents, bedding, mats, kitchen and hygiene kits, solar lanterns, and other essential materials to support post-hurricane recovery.

Sierra Leone

India extended humanitarian assistance to Sierra Leone to help strengthen its medical infrastructure

and enhance public health outcomes. In December, a consignment of 15 Haemo-Dialysis Machines, complete with portable reverse osmosis (RO) units and consumable kits, was delivered. This effort reflects India's enduring ethos of Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam, the spirit of South-South cooperation, and a steadfast commitment to Africa, as envisioned by Prime Minister.

Tanzania

In December, at the request of Shree Hindu Mandal Hospital, a registered non-profit trust founded in 1919 and serving the Tanzanian community in health care, education, social welfare, and youth development, India provided medical equipment to the hospital.

HADR Assistance to Health Infrastructure in Pacific Island Countries

In line with India's commitment to the Pacific Island Countries (PICs) made during the third FIPIC Summit, the first consignment of 12 hemodialysis machines equipped with portable reverse osmosis (RO) units was delivered to Papua New Guinea in November 2024. Following this, one hemodialysis machine with a portable RO unit was supplied to each of the Solomon Islands, Marshall Islands, Nauru, and Palau in January and April. Additionally, a six-bedded container-based dialysis unit was delivered to Kiribati in May. These supplies will significantly strengthen the healthcare infrastructure of the Pacific Island Countries, reflecting India's commitment to development partnership and capacity-building cooperation under the FIPIC framework.

Food-Grain Assistance

Cameroon

In line with its humanitarian assistance and commitment to the Global South, India sent 1000 MT of rice, along with essential medicines and relief materials, to the people of Cameroon. This aid was in response to the devastating floods, which resulted in significant loss of livelihoods, land, and livestock. The humanitarian consignment was delivered in June.

Sudan

Affirming its partnership with the Global South, India provided a humanitarian aid consignment of 2000 MT of rice to Sudan. This effort aimed to address food insecurity and nutritional needs of those facing hardships due to prolonged civil conflicts. The aid was delivered in July.

Fiji

As part of its Act East Policy, India sent five MT of Black-eyed Cowpea seeds to support agricultural production in Fiji. The delivery of this consignment was completed in August.

Health Cooperation

Jan Aushadhi Kendra

This year, India signed agreements with four partner countries for the Jan Aushadhi initiative: the Maldives, Nauru, Guyana, and Fiji. This agreement aims to provide cost-effective, 'Made in India' generic medicines at affordable prices, enhancing public healthcare and strengthening bilateral cooperation in the health sector among countries in the Global South. Prior to this, Mauritius became the first country to adopt the Jan Aushadhi Scheme, allowing it to source approximately 250 high-quality medicines from the Pharmaceuticals and Medical Devices Bureau of India (PMBI) through HLL Lifecare Limited.

Second edition of Policymakers' Forum

The Ministry, in collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) and the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission, organised the second Policymakers' Forum on 16-19 June. This event brought together 45 policymakers and senior drug regulatory officials from 21 countries, including Liberia, Togo, Mali, Mauritania, Sierra Leone, Cameroon, Rwanda, Lesotho, Eswatini, Kenya, Botswana, Ethiopia, Comoros, Seychelles, Madagascar, Papua New Guinea, Zimbabwe, St. Lucia, St. Vincent & the Grenadines, Barbados, and Chile. Delegates from the Caribbean Public Health Agency (CARPHA) also

participated, reaffirming India's role as a valued and trusted partner in global health.

This forum was built on the momentum of the first Policymakers' Forum held in August 2024, during which several participating countries formally recognised the Indian Pharmacopoeia as a standard for drug quality. The forum highlighted India's proactive efforts in advancing global public health objectives.

During the forum, delegates participated in technical sessions focused on pharmacopeial standards, India's regulatory landscape, and successful public health schemes. Additionally, site visits were arranged to IPC's state-of-the-art laboratories in Ghaziabad, a Jan Aushadhi Kendra in Agra, and prominent pharmaceutical and vaccine manufacturing and R&D facilities in Ahmedabad, providing delegates with firsthand exposure to India's robust scientific and regulatory systems.

MoUs on recognition of Indian Pharmacopoeia

The Indian pharmacopoeia is gaining international recognition through diplomatic efforts and alignment with global standards. As of 2025, the Indian pharmacopoeia has been accepted as a standard reference in 19 countries in the Global South, including nations in Africa, South Asia, and Latin America. India signed an MoU on pharmacopoeia cooperation with Sri Lanka, Cuba, Maldives, Trinidad & Tobago, Fiji, Botswana, and Liberia. This collaboration aims to foster mutually beneficial cooperation in pharmaceutical trade and public health between India and these partner countries.

Quad Initiatives

Quad Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness for Indo-Pacific Region

Under the presidency of Quad, India organised a 'Quad Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness for Indo-Pacific Region' on 17-19 March. MoS (Health) inaugurated the workshop. Key speakers at the inaugural session included Principal Scientific Advisor, Secretary (Health), Additional Secretary (MoH & FW), and Additional Secretary (Americas).



India hosted Quad Workshop on Pandemic Preparedness in New Delhi, March 2025

An outcome of the sixth Quad Leaders' Summit held in September 2024, the workshop brought together senior health officials and technical experts from the Quad nations - India, US, Japan, and Australia. In addition, over 25 delegates from 15 countries across the Indo-Pacific region participated, including representatives from Cambodia, Fiji, Indonesia, Kenya, Kiribati, Madagascar, the Maldives, Mozambique, Palau, Philippines, Sri Lanka, Tanzania, Thailand, Tonga, and Tuvalu, as well as international health organisations.

During the workshop, participating countries shared their experiences and best practices in pandemic preparedness, specifically focusing on governance, surveillance, and innovation. The discussions centred on strengthening global health frameworks, enhancing preparedness and resilience, ensuring coordinated pandemic responses, and promoting the implementation of the One Health approach. Topics also included risk communication, community engagement, disease surveillance, and capacity building. This workshop marked a significant milestone in establishing a robust and coordinated health security framework for the Indo-Pacific region.

Quad Cancer Moonshot Initiative

The Cancer Moonshot Initiative was launched by the Quad countries in September 2024, with the goal of reducing the burden of cancer across the Indo-Pacific region. Under this initiative, India has committed to providing HPV sampling kits, detection tools, and cervical cancer vaccines valued at USD 7.5 million to the region.

This significant contribution aims to strengthen local efforts to prevent and detect cervical cancer early and to empower communities with affordable, accessible screening and prevention tools. It also supports HPV vaccination programmes designed to reduce the disease burden across the Indo-Pacific. As part of this commitment, a total of 226,000 units of each type of HPV Sampling Kit and HPV Diagnostic/Testing Kit will be supplied in phases to the identified countries in the region.

Quad Partnership on HADR in the Indo-Pacific

India hosted the inaugural Quad HADR Tabletop Exercise (TTX) and Strategic WG meeting in New Delhi in December 2022, which provided a platform for the Quad to come together and deliberate on an effective HADR response mechanism for the Indo-Pacific region. Following Australia (2023) and Japan (2024), the US hosted the fourth Quad HADR TTX and strategic meeting in Honolulu in December. The Quad WG actively engages and exchanges information on HADR efforts. The current Chairship is with the US for 2025-26.

As a foundational pillar of the Quad partnership, HADR is central to the group's efforts to promote peace, security, prosperity, and resilience in the Indo-Pacific. The coordinated delivery of humanitarian assistance in response to the devastating earthquake in Myanmar in March demonstrated the Quad's ability to mobilise resources quickly and provide essential life-saving aid.

Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN)

Quad partners met at the Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii, to conduct a TTX from 28 April to 2 May. This simulation aimed to launch the Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN). The IPLN is an initiative designed to enhance coordination and interoperability among partner nations in logistics and HADR operations across the Indo-Pacific region.



Quad partners - India, Australia, Japan, and US - met at the Asia-Pacific Centre for Security Studies in Honolulu, Hawaii, to conduct a Tabletop Exercise, April-May 2025

Through activities such as tabletop exercises (TTXs) and technical working groups, the IPLN seeks to strengthen multinational airlift planning, streamline resource-sharing mechanisms, and improve collective response capabilities during regional crises. The network emphasises practical cooperation, information exchange, and the development of resilient, flexible logistics frameworks to support a free, open, and secure Indo-Pacific.

The Quad partners successfully conducted the first Field Training Exercise (FTX) alongside Operation Christmas Drop at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam on 8-12 December. This exercise was part of the Quad Indo-Pacific Logistics Network (IPLN).

Furthermore, IPLN, in collaboration with the Indo-Pacific Partnership for Maritime Domain Awareness, showcases the Quad's dedication to sustaining a free and open Indo-Pacific. It also underscores the need to enhance practical cooperation to address regional challenges.



Quad partners conducted the first Field Training Exercise (FTX) alongside Operation Christmas Drop at Andersen Air Force Base in Guam, December 2025

CHAPTER

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Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service

The Sushma Swaraj Institute of the Foreign Service (SSIFS) is one of the 25 Central Training Institutes of the Government of India. It was established in 1986 to impart professional training to the newly inducted officers of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) each year. Over the years, the Institute's training ambit has expanded to include time-bound Mid-Career Training Programs (MCTPs) for serving MEA officers, as well as in-service and promotion-related training programs for other MEA personnel and members of other GoI Ministries and Central Training Institutes. It also conducts pre-posting training programmes for officers other than MEA posted to Indian Missions and Posts abroad. SSIFS regularly conducts training programs for foreign diplomats, as a tool to deepen friendly bilateral relations based on trust, cooperation and shared growth and development, particularly with the Global South. All training programmes at SSIFS focus on building/enhancing the behavioural, functional, and domain competencies of the participants.

SSIFS has been acknowledged by the Capacity Building Commission (CBC) for effectively incorporating the Commission's stated mandate of capacity enhancement and promoting decompartmentalisation, both in terms of the quantum of programs and their quality. For the first time, SSIFS conducted the Induction Training Program for the 2024 Batch of IFS Officer Trainees through the Learning Management System (LMS), which it used extensively as a central hub for learning content, tracking learners' progress, administering assessments, and creating a repository for future use. Learning through LMS was extended to MCTPs and to foreign diplomats' programs, thus moving towards becoming a Centre of Excellence by imparting high-quality training more professionally.

Active engagement of SSIFS with other civil service training academies, including LBSNAA, NACIN, etc., in terms of delivering curated sessions on Foreign Policy and Diplomacy has been acknowledged and lauded by CBC. SSIFS is currently undertaking re-accreditation based on the revised accreditation parameters, NSCSTI 2.0, issued by CBC. In addition,

SSIFS, in coordination with the Administration Division and other relevant Divisions of MEA, have added self-paced courses on the iGOT Karmayogi Portal.

SSIFS also engaged actively with other Diplomatic Training Academies- Dean (SSIFS) attended the 51st International Forum on Diplomatic Training (IFDT) themed "Navigating Change in a Complex world: Innovation in Diplomatic Training" in Cuzco, Peru, on 11-14 November, in which 77 participants took part from around the world. Dean took part in a high-level Panel Discussion on 'What Do the 21st Century Diplomats Need to Know? Rethinking Diplomatic Education', in which he outlined how training institutions need to adapt their curricula to diplomacy's expanding & diversifying role in a rapidly changing world.

The Institute was represented by Dean (SSIFS) at the Conference of Central Training Institutes, hosted by LBSNAA on 26-27 November, which highlighted the need for compassionate, mindset and skillset oriented training with a whole-of-nation approach towards 'Viksit Bharat'. The Conference was held to mark the conclusion of the 100th Foundation Course for the 2025 Batch Officer Trainees.

Induction Training Programmes for IFS Officer Trainees

33 IFS Officer Trainees of the 2024 batch and 2 Bhutanese diplomats joined SSIFS on 2 December 2024 for their Induction Training Program (ITP). The nine-month-long ITP was divided into three segments – Phase I, Desk Attachment, and Phase II - each spanning nearly three months, culminating in the valedictory ceremony on 26 August.

The training program comprised classroom sessions that, inter alia, covered procedural aspects, including administrative rules and finance, as well as domain-specific subjects such as bilateral and multilateral diplomacy, economic diplomacy, science and tech diplomacy, defence diplomacy, and public & cultural diplomacy. The sessions also included simulation exercises, which enabled more active learning and involvement of the Officer Trainees. During the course of the training program, the Officer Trainees also had various attachments, including the Mission Attachment and Army/Navy/Air Force Attachments, which provided essential insights and learning opportunities. While the Officer Trainees had the chance to call on EAM and Foreign Secretary in the early days of the ITP, they also called on the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji and Prime Minister towards the completion of the program.

On 1 December, SSIFS also commenced the Induction Training Program of the 2025 Batch of IFS, comprising 52 Officer Trainees along with 2 Bhutanese Diplomats. Particularly noteworthy was the 3-day module organised by Clingendael Academy on Law of Seas and maritime governance, which was a first of its kind and marked institutional cooperation between SSIFS and Clingendael.



Prime Minister interacted with Officer Trainees of the 2024 batch of the Indian Foreign Service, August 2025



Officer Trainees of the 2024 batch of the Indian Foreign Service called on the Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji, August 2025

Mid-Career Training Programmes for IFS Officers

SSIFS held Mid-Career Training Program (MCTP) I, II and III. MCTP-I was held for 2013-14 Batches from 5-23 May, facilitating the timely promotion of the batches to Director rank. MCTP-II was held between 7-27 April for the 2009 Batch officers, to enable their promotion to Joint Secretary rank. MCTP-III was organised from 18 August to 5 September for 2000-01 batches for their promotion to the Additional Secretary rank.

All the Mid-Career Training Programs consisted of two weeks of training at SSIFS, comprising foreign policy modules and sessions on leadership, emotional intelligence, and related topics. Upon completion of these modules at SSIFS, the Officers undertook a week-long State Attachment, including visits to aspirational districts, where feasible, as part of MCTPs.

Special Training Programmes for other Services

During the year, SSIFS conducted the pre-deployment training programs for Officers/Officials of the Cabinet Secretariat from 3-4 November, and for Defence Attache Designates from 24-28 November.

Special Courses for Foreign Diplomats

SSIFS conducts Special Courses for diplomats from partner countries and regional groupings. This year, SSIFS conducted three Flagship Programmes viz the fifth Edition of Annual Disarmament & International Security Affairs Fellowship in collaboration with the D&ISA Division during 13-31 January with the participation of 34 diplomats from 33 countries, the 72nd Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats (PCFD) from 19-30 May with the participation of 30 diplomats from 28 countries and the third Edition of Global South Young Diplomats Forum (GSYDF) on 8-19 September with the participation of 42 diplomats (including one from India) from 42 countries in the Global South. SSIFS launched the first Special Course for diplomats from IORA Member Countries from 28 April to 3 May, with 17 diplomats from 15 countries participating.

SSIFS conducted four country-specific programmes this year. These included second Special Course for 31 diplomats from Myanmar from 17-27 March, second Special Course for 32 diplomats from the Democratic Republic of Congo from 19-28 March, fifth Special Course for 34 diplomats from Iraq from 9-18 June and second Special Course for 32 diplomats from Egypt from 8-17 October.

SSIFS organised five programmes, each covering select countries from distinct regions. These included first Special Course for 12 diplomats from Kuwait, Oman & Saudi Arabia from 17-25 February, first Special Course for 41 diplomats from seven Central and West African countries (Republic of Guinea, Chad, Niger, Gabon, Ghana & Libya) from 16-25 July, first Special Course for 40 diplomats from North and East African Countries (Eritrea, Libya, Somalia, & South Sudan) from 4-13 August, first Special courses for 46 diplomats from 21 countries from Central and South America and Caribbean Island and CARICOM Secretariat on 29 October – 7 November, second Special Course for 15 diplomats from BIMSTEC Member Countries on 17-22 November and first Special Course on diplomatic soft skills on behavioural and functional competencies for 31 diplomats and officers from Mauritius, Seychelles and IORA Secretariat on 8-14 December.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)

In 2025, seven MoUs were signed between the SSIFS and the Departments and Training Institutes of Ireland, Armenia, Mauritius, Slovakia, Trinidad and Tobago, Japan and Israel. Starting with Peru in 1997, SSIFS has so far signed 106 MoUs with partner countries, including three MoUs with plurilateral organisations- IBSA, BRICS and BIMSTEC.

Fourth Sushma Swaraj Lecture 2025

The fourth Sushma Swaraj Lecture 2025 on 'Introduction to India' was held at SSIFS in collaboration with India Foundation on 19 November, in which 24 diplomats participated from 21 resident Missions in New Delhi. The visiting diplomats gained insightful perspectives on India's foreign policy, history, polity, economy, and the new world order from renowned experts in their respective fields.

Fifth Atal Bihari Vajpayee Memorial Lecture

The fifth Atal Bihari Vajpayee Memorial Lecture was delivered by Chairman Temasek Holdings and Senior Advisor to the Prime Minister of Singapore Teo Chee Hean on 9 December on the topic – 'Enduring Partnerships in a Changing World'. The event witnessed the august presence of the EAM and senior officers of the Ministry.

The annual memorial lecture was organised by the SSIFS at the Sushma Swaraj Bhawan as a tribute to the late Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, a towering statesman and visionary, for his lifelong contribution towards nation-building and India's foreign policy as both External Affairs Minister and Prime Minister.

Training Programme for Other MEA Officials

Various training courses for Non-Representational Grade (NRG) officials (Section Officers/Private Secretaries and below) were conducted during the year. These included an Induction Training Programme for Personal Assistants & Stenographers and Promotion-related Training Programmes for Section Officers, Assistant Section Officers, Principal Private Secretaries, Private Secretaries, Personal Assistants, and Stenographers. All Promotion-related training sessions were conducted in a hybrid format to facilitate participation by officials from various Missions and Posts abroad. SSIFS conducted the Stenography test for Personal Assistants and Stenographers, and the typing test for Junior Secretariat Assistants and Multi-Tasking Staff. In addition, SSIFS conducted several pre-posting domain-based, skill-updation training programmes for MEA officials on Accounts, IMAS (Integrated Mission Accounting System), and IVFRT (Immigration, Visa and Foreigners' Registration & Tracking). A total of 1200 officials benefited from the NRG training programmes.

Know India Programme

Endeavouring to develop a closer connection with the Younger Indian Diaspora to help them strengthen their ancestral linkages with their current homeland, SSIFS conducted half day long orientation programme for the 37 young Indian Diaspora participants from 14 countries for the 83rd Know India Programme (KIP) in collaboration with the Diaspora Engagement Division of the MEA. The 84th edition of the programme registered participation of 39 young visitors from 17 countries.

Transparency Audit under RTI Act, 2005

The SSIFS has been mandated to carry out a Transparency Audit of proactive disclosures by public authorities under the RTI Act, 2005, with respect to public authorities under the MEA. This year, SSIFS successfully conducted an audit of 191 public authorities from the Ministry and Indian Missions and Posts abroad, which had submitted their self-appraisals on the Central Information Commission (CIC) portal dedicated to the purpose.

CHAPTER

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Indian Council for Cultural Relations

Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), in its endeavour towards strengthening cultural relations and exchanges across the world, kept buzzing with activities and made many advances. The Council worked with its 38 Indian Cultural Centres abroad, five zonal offices, four sub-zonal offices, and two regional offices in India. The activities of ICCR included regular activities, as well as new initiatives and special events.

Major Events

The Council observed several significant occasions, including the celebration of 150 years of Vande Mataram on 7 November, the organisation of an event to commemorate the 137th Birth Anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Founder President of ICCR, on 11 November, and the celebration of Constitution Day on 26 November.

Administration

The 75th Foundation Day of ICCR was celebrated on 9 April, with EAM as the Chief Guest. The event featured artistic performances by Indian and international artists, the presentation of Annapurna Certificates, an art exhibition, and a visual showcase of ICCR's global journey.

ICCR organised a three-day induction training programme for 33 IFS probationers of the 2024 batch and two Bhutanese diplomats from 6-8 August in New Delhi.

Scholarships

Scholarships for foreign nationals are an important tool to encourage them to study and appreciate Indian arts, heritage, and culture. This helps to create outreach, a feeling of goodwill, and promote India's influence across the world.

In the academic year 2025-26, ICCR offered 4047 scholarship slots to foreign nationals under its 21 scholarship schemes, including 1000 scholarships for Afghan nationals to pursue online undergraduate/ postgraduate courses.

ICCR coordinated the visit of two ten-member delegations of Purohits from Trinidad & Tobago and Fiji for a three-month Purohit Training Course at Banaras Hindu University (BHU). This course was initiated pursuant to announcements made by the Prime Minister during his visits. The course was conducted in online (two months) and offline (one month) modes. During the programme, the delegations also participated in the International Gita Mahotsav (29–30 November) in Kurukshetra.

ICCR organised Exit Engagement Evening 2025 for foreign students who had completed their studies through ICCR scholarships in Shillong (23 June), Visakhapatnam (28 June), Pune (5 July), Lucknow (9 July), New Delhi (10 July), and Kolkata (11 July). A total of 1165 students participated.

Chairs

ICCR facilitated the setting up of Chairs of Indian Studies (Political Science, History, Economics, and Buddhist Studies), Indian languages such as Hindi, and dance and music in foreign universities. Throughout the year, five MoUs were signed with various universities, five ICCR chairs were established, and 13 scholars were deployed as ICCR Visiting Professors at various foreign universities.

Conferences and Seminars

ICCR moderated Thematic Plenary Session V titled 'Diaspora Dialogues: Stories of Culture, Connection, and Belongingness' during the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas held from 8-10 January in Bhubaneswar.

The seventh International Conference on Yoga, the first for the Central Asia region, was organised in collaboration with the Embassy of India in Tashkent, the Ministry of Ayush, and the Yoga Federation of Uzbekistan at Tashkent City. The conference was conducted on 17-19 September, based on the theme 'Yoga for One Earth One Health'.

ICCR, in association with the Embassy of India, Beijing, organised a Conference on Indian Philosophy titled 'Sangamam – Confluence of Indian Philosophical Traditions' on 25 October.

ICCR deputed Sadhana Naithani from Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, as a visiting faculty to deliver a keynote address and talks in the International Conference on 'From Coast to Coast: Folklore and the Cultural Lives of the Western Indian Ocean', organised by the L'Orientale University of Naples, Italy, from 18-28 November.

ICCR supported a three-and-a-half day international workshop on 'Tithi Shastrarth: Scientific Multidisciplinary discussion to structure chronology of major historical events of Before Common Era (BCE) to decode date of Kurukshetra War' from 3-5 December.

ICCR facilitated the international air travel of Prof. Zsolt Balassy, a distinguished researcher from Budapest, to participate as a speaker at the 26th INCOFYRA International Conference on Frontiers in Yoga Research and its application, organised by S-VYASA University, Bengaluru, from 18-21 December.

Outgoing Cultural Delegations

Between January and September, ICCR sponsored 60 cultural troupes across 57 countries. These included classical dance forms such as Kathak, Bharatanatyam, Manipuri, and Odissi, as well as folk dance and music groups representing traditions such as Punjabi, Bhojpuri, Gujarati, and Rajasthani, among others. Between October and December, ICCR sponsored an additional 12 cultural troupes to perform in 16 countries. These comprised classical genres such as Kathak and Odissi, along with folk dance and music groups including Punjabi, Bhojpuri, Gujarati, and Rajasthani traditions.

Incoming Cultural Delegations

ICCR presented five cultural performances during the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas held from 9-10 January.

ICCR organised the 10th edition of the India International Dance and Music Festival in 12 cities across 10 Indian states from 18 February to 7 March. The inaugural event was held at Ganga Manch, Mahakumbh Mela Ground, Prayagraj, on 22-23 February in collaboration with the Department of Tourism and Culture, Government of Uttar Pradesh.

ICCR organised and supported several cultural performances during 2025 in collaboration with foreign missions, state governments, cultural institutions, and during high-level visits, diplomatic engagement, and international conferences.

- Violin recital by Sharat Chandra Srivastava and Portuguese guitar recital by Richardo J. Martins in New Delhi on 6 February in collaboration with Fudacao Oriente (Goa) and the Embassy of Portugal, New Delhi.
- Thai Khon dance group at Bhim Hall, Dr. Ambedkar International Centre, New Delhi, on 6 February in collaboration with the Royal Thai Embassy, New Delhi.
- Santoor recital by Prabhat Mukherjee at Raja Bagh, Taj Palace Hotel, New Delhi, on 24 February during the reception dinner hosted by the Secretary (West) on the occasion of the Global South Summit.
- Instrumental music by Jyotsna Srikanth at Hyderabad House, New Delhi, on 28 February during the lunch hosted by the Prime Minister in honour of President of the European Commission Ursula von der Leyen.
- Veena recital by Siddhartha Banerjee at Hyderabad House, New Delhi, on 17 March during the ceremonial lunch hosted by the Prime Minister in honour of the visiting Prime Minister of New Zealand Christopher Luxon.
- ICCR collaborated with the Embassy of Georgia in New Delhi to organise the Ketevan Music Festival 2025 at the historical site of St. Augustine Church complex in Old Goa on 21 March, featuring performances of Georgian folk songs, folk music of Goa, and Mohiniyattam.
- Cultural performance by renowned Hindustani folk singer Malini Awasthi in New Delhi on 29 March.
- Santoor recital by Varsha Agrawal at Hyderabad House, New Delhi, on 1 April during the ceremonial lunch hosted by the Prime Minister in honour of the visiting Prime Minister of Chile Gabriel Boric Font
- Six cultural performances in New Delhi on 9 April on ICCR Foundation Day.
- Two cultural shows at the Prime Minister's House, New Delhi, on 21 April during the ceremonial reception and dinner hosted by the Prime Minister in honour of the visiting US Vice President J.D. Vance.
- ICCR presented a specially curated cultural show, 'Pragati' (Progression), at Hotel Taj Cochin International on 21 April during the study visit of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on External Affairs to Cochin.
- ICCR sponsored the cultural performance of a seven-member Thai musical ensemble, Sun Der, for the inauguration of the third Bihar Museum Biennale (themed on 'Global South; Sharing Histories') held at Bihar Museum, Patna, on 7 August.
- ICCR organised the first BIMSTEC Traditional Music Festival in Kolkata and New Delhi from 31 July to 4 August, along with a three-day workshop from 31 July to 2 August at Satyajit Ray Auditorium, Rabindranath Tagore Centre, ICCR Kolkata, with participation from 48 musicians representing seven BIMSTEC countries (India, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Thailand, Sri Lanka & Nepal).

ICCR organised the ninth India International Folk Festival in 12 cities, including New Delhi, Chandigarh, Dehradun, Patna, Ranchi, Shillong, Cherrapunji, Goa,

Ahmedabad, and Surat from 29 September to 12 October with participation from international cultural troupes from 10 countries (Armenia, Kazakhstan, DR Congo, Kyrgyz Republic, Lao PDR, Belarus, Maldives, Poland, Sri Lanka & Malta). The gala inaugural session of the Festival was organised at Central Park, Connaught Place, New Delhi, from 4-6 October, featuring Cultural performances by 134 International and 68 Indian artists on one stage, showcasing the spirit of cultural unity and traditional artistry.

Monthly cultural programmes were organised through 11 zonal, sub-zonal, and regional offices of ICCR located in Delhi (NCR), Lucknow, Kolkata, Jammu, Bengaluru, Mumbai, Ahmedabad, Pune, Shillong, Guwahati, and Patna under the Horizon Series programmes in the respective regions throughout the year. Local emerging artists of different performing art genres and artisans in the respective states and regions participated in these cultural presentations.

Awards

Muhanad Hatim Hashim Alrakabi was awarded Bharat Mitra Samman – Distinguished Alumni for 2023 on 22 January 2025 in Iraq.

The Annapurna Certificate Award Function was organised on 9 April 2025, during which the following restaurants received the Annapurna Certificate 2024:

- M/s Saravanaa Bhavan, Kuwait
- M/s Jains Little India, Mauritius
- M/s Rasika West End, USA
- M/s Asha's, United Kingdom
- M/s New Delhi Restaurant, Norway

Vasundhara Kavali Filliozat was awarded Bharat Mitra Samman – Sanskrit for 2023 on 9 April 2025 in France.

Brigitte Chataignier was awarded Bharat Mitra Samman – Distinguished Alumni for 2023 on 21 May 2025 in France.

Krzysztof Jakub Iwanek, Former Head of Asia Research Centre, War Studies University, Warsaw, Poland, was awarded Bharat Mitra Samman – Distinguished Alumni for the year 2023 on December 14, 2025, in Poland.

Visitors Programme

Under its Distinguished Visitors Programme, ICCR hosted:

- Abdul Hossein Khosrow-Panah, Secretary of the Supreme Council of Cultural Revolution, Iran, and his delegation on 22 February to 1 March
- Geoffrey Onyeama, former Foreign Minister of Nigeria, on 21-31 July.
- Manjul Bhargava, Professor (Mathematics), Princeton University, USA, to attend 'India and the World Order: Preparing for 2047' organised by Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, on 6-8 October.
- Zvonimir Troskot, Member of Parliament of Croatia on 10-21 December.

ICCR hosted 24 young Sri Lankan political leaders under the Young Political Leaders Programme on 13-25 July 2025.

Under its Academic Visitors Programme, ICCR hosted visits of:

- Danuta Stasik, Hindi Scholar and Professor of the University of Warsaw, Poland, on 2-13 February.
- Marina Rimscha, Hindi Lecturer, Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, Israel, on 16-25 February.
- Mahamood Shougee, Hon'ble Chancellor, Maldives National University (MNU), Republic of Maldives, on 17-23 February.
- Shaunak Rishi Das, Director, Oxford Centre for Hindu Studies on 23 February to 4 March.
- Abraham Matoc Dhal, Vice-Chancellor, John Garang Memorial University, South Sudan, on 30 July-7 August.
- Omonulla Zakirovich Muhammedjanov, Senior Academic at Tashkent State University of Law (TSUL), Uzbekistan, on 3-11 August.
- Lydia Aziato, Vice-Chancellor, University of Health & Allied Sciences, Ghana, on 12-22 August.

- Manjul Bhargava, Professor of Mathematics, Princeton University, USA, on 6-15 October.

Under its Important Visitors Programme, ICCR hosted Jesus Julio Carero, Mayor of Valladolid, Spain, on 15-22 September.

Exhibitions

The exhibition titled 'Vishwaroop Ram – The Universal Legacy of Ramayana' was organised during the 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in Bhubaneswar on 8-10 January and was inaugurated by the Prime Minister on 9 January.

An exhibition mapping ICCR's global footprint was curated and inaugurated by EAM on 9 April to mark the 75th anniversary of ICCR. The exhibition featured photographs and visuals showcasing ICCR's history, various cultural events, and initiatives organised across the world.

The exhibition 'Vishwaroop Ram – The Universal Legacy of Ramayana' was displayed during the third Bihar Museum Biennale in Patna in August.

Busts and Statues

ICCR sent nine busts and statues of Rabindranath Tagore, Maharishi Valmiki, Mahatma Gandhi, Swami Vivekananda, and Thiruvalluvar to Lebanon, Italy, Romania, the United States, Japan, Hong Kong, and Malaysia for installation.

Indian Cultural Centres

ICCR had 38 Indian Cultural Centres abroad and extended support to Casa de la India in Valladolid, Spain. ICCR also extended support to the Casa de la India in Valladolid, Spain, established on a Public-Private Partnership.

ICCR deployed 49 Teachers of Indian Culture (Yoga) and 40 India-based performing arts teachers in various missions and centres, in the disciplines of Bharatnatyam, Kathak, Odissi, Tabla, Hindustani & Carnatic Vocal. 91 Local Resource Persons were also engaged across missions and posts.

ICCR organised an Orientation Training Programme for Performing Arts Teachers cum Performers through Centre for Cultural Resources and Training (CCRT) on 6-12 March.

A tripartite agreement amongst ICCR, Routes2Roots (R2R), and Uttar Pradesh Rajarshi Tandon Open University (UPRTOU) was signed on 30th April, to conduct online classes and certification in the disciplines of Indian performing arts and music for the Indian Diaspora, foreign students/alumni of ICCR, and Foreign Nationals. Online classes commenced for Indian classical dance (Bharatnatyam, Kathak, and Odissi); for Indian music (Bollywood Dance with language learning), Harmonium, Hindustani Vocal, and Tabla) and Folk Art (Mehndi, Madhubani, Rangoli, and Puppet-Making) on June onwards.

ICCR supported 206 missions and posts abroad in celebrating the 11th International Day of Yoga on 21 June.

Hindi

ICCR continued publishing its Hindi bi-monthly magazine Gagananchal. On 7 April, it published Gagananchal Year 47, Issue 6 (November-December 2024), as a special issue on the national poet Ramdhari Singh Dinkar.

Agreement and Exchange

ICCR organised a meeting of the India-UAE Cultural Council on 19 March in New Delhi, chaired by the Director General, ICCR, and co-chaired by Noura Bint Mohammed Al Kaabi, Minister of State for Cultural Affairs of the UAE.

ICCR signed an MoU with the Government of Andhra Pradesh on 5 June to strengthen partnership and institutionalise cooperation.

CHAPTER

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Nalanda University

Nalanda University, established under the Nalanda University Act, 2010, continued to build upon its mandate to revive the ancient global centre of learning that once shaped intellectual exchanges across Asia. Supported by East Asia Summits' 18 Participating Countries, including India, the University functions as an international, non-state and self-governing institution. The inauguration of its 455-acre net-zero Green Campus at Rajgir by the Prime Minister on 19 June 2024 marked a major milestone in its evolution. The campus integrates advanced sustainability features including a 6.5 MW solar power plant, decentralised wastewater systems, biogas-based energy generation under installation, extensive water bodies, and thermal storage systems.

Academic Programmes, Schools and Centres

After two years of interim arrangements, new Vice Chancellor was appointed this year. During the year, the University continued to operate six Schools of Studies: the School of Buddhist Studies, Philosophy & Comparative Religions, School of Historical Studies, School of Ecology and Environmental Studies, School of Management Studies, School of Languages & Literature/Humanities, and the School of International Relations & Peace Studies. These Schools offer Master's programmes, Global Ph.D. programmes, Post-Doctoral Fellowships, and a wide range of certificate and diploma courses. The academic framework was supported by specialised Centres, including the Centre for Bay of Bengal Studies, the Common Archival Resource Centre, the Centre for Indo-Persian Studies, the Centre for Conflict Resolution & Peace Studies, and the Centre for Studies in Development and Sustainability.

India announced the establishment of the Centre for Southeast Asian Studies at Nalanda University during the 22nd East Asia Summit on 26 October, reinforcing the University's role in regional studies, Asian civilizational research, and Indo-Pacific academic cooperation.

Student Enrollment, Faculty Strength and Scholarships

During the academic year, the University recorded a total enrolment of 1,268 students, including 637 residential students in postgraduate and doctoral programmes. Among them, 332 are international students drawn from more than 22 countries across Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America. Student numbers have grown consistently over the last five years, reflecting the University's rising academic profile and stronger global outreach. Faculty strength stood at 76, including visiting faculty, against the long-term Cabinet-approved capacity of 307. To support international student mobility and academic diversity, the University awarded 363 scholarships during the year, comprising 180 ASEAN-India Fund scholarships, 100 BIMSTEC scholarships, 60 Bhutan Government scholarships funded by the Ministry, and 23 endowed scholarships including the Pyong Rae Lee Scholarship and the Saraswati Narsingrao Fellowship.

In October, the University also operationalised a Training and Placement Cell to strengthen career guidance, industry engagement, and employment readiness, particularly for students of the School of Management Studies and allied disciplines.

Infrastructure and Campus Development

The University's campus infrastructure expanded significantly during the year. The academic and administrative complexes, two large auditoriums, a 1,000-seat multipurpose hall, hostels accommodating 548 students, residential quarters, international guest facilities, a yoga centre, a modern sports complex, and well-equipped dining and utility centres became fully operational. The Central Library, designed to hold 300,000 books, reached structural completion, with interior works scheduled for completion by January 2026. The campus's sustainability architecture, including solar energy generation, biogas-based waste-to-energy systems, large-capacity water treatment plants, and extensive ecological water bodies, reinforces Nalanda University's position as India's premier net-zero higher-education campus.

Academic Engagements, Research Output and Events

Academic activity across all Schools remained vigorous, supported by faculty publications in internationally indexed journals, high-impact research projects, and participation in national and international conferences. Students and faculty contributed to archaeological fieldwork, ecological studies, manuscript research, Buddhist philosophy seminars, South-South cooperation dialogues, and international relations conferences. The University's digital learning environment continued to expand through the mLibrary and associated databases.

Key academic and cultural events included SPIC-MACAY performances, heritage learning programmes, Raj Bhavan-Nalanda University Lecture Series, sustainability workshops, Cross-Asian Dialogue on Rural Development and community-based initiatives under Sahabhāgita Samvāda, which engaged over 350 students and teachers from local communities.

International Collaborations and Global Outreach

Nalanda University has expanded its international engagement through academic collaborations and institutional partnerships. Till date, the University has signed more than 50 MoUs with universities and institutions in Bangladesh, Cambodia, the Czech Republic, Indonesia, Japan, Nepal, Republic of Korea, Russia, Spain, Sri Lanka, US, and Vietnam, as well as with leading institutions in India.

Under the ASEAN–India Network of Universities (AINU), Nalanda University has established over 25 active collaborations involving IITs, NITs, IIM Bodh Gaya, the Indian Maritime University, and universities across Southeast Asia.

As part of its global academic outreach efforts, the University participated in engagements in New York and Washington DC with institutions like Columbia University, UN, UNOSSC, and World Bank in July. These interactions focused on areas including sustainable development, knowledge diplomacy, digital public goods, and international academic cooperation.

CHAPTER

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Archives & Records Management Division

Archives & Records Management (A&RM) Division is the custodian of important records of the Ministry having archival value and a repository of 1.85 Lakh physical files. The Division regularly undertakes the job of appraisal and transfer of files to the National Archives of India (NAI).

Completion of Digitisation work & Inauguration of New Server

The Division has successfully transferred existing digitised data (including TIF-to-PDF conversion, OCR, and Metadata creation) from the old server to the latest technology platform, the new server, for easier record retrieval. The new server was inaugurated by the then Secretary (East) on 28 March.

Revised Records Retention Schedule 2024

A&RM Division circulated the revised Records Retention Schedule (RRS) 2024 to all the concerned stakeholders of the Ministry for compliance on 19 June after getting approval from the NAI. Prior to this, the last revised RRS had been issued in 2012.

Appraisal of Ordinary Records

As per the provisions of the Public Records Act, 1993, and the Public Records Rules, 1997, the NAI must regularly appraise declassified/ordinary records before transferring selected records to the NAI. In line with this, the first appraisal for this year was held in August, in consultation with NAI. Out of 2,384 ordinary files, 1,016 selected physical files of important historical and archival value have been transferred to NAI for permanent preservation and uploading to the public domain. The remaining 1,368 files/documents were left in the Division.

In line with this, the second appraisal for this year was organised in November in consultation with NAI. Out of 1546 ordinary files, 129 selected physical files of important historical and archival value have been transferred to NAI for permanent preservation and

uploading to the public domain. The remaining 1417 files/documents were sent to the concerned Divisions for Review/ Declassification. In total, during this year, 3,930 files have been appraised by NAI, out of which 1,145 files have been transferred to NAI.

Review/Declassification of records

Under the Public Records Act of 1993, records must be reviewed by the NAI once they reach 25 years of age. Since classified records cannot be appraised by NAI, they need to be declassified beforehand. Since January, a total of 4,113 physical files older than 25 years have been sent to the relevant Ministry divisions for declassification or review. During November and December alone, 1,268 files were forwarded to the appropriate divisions. Overall, in this year, the A&RM Division has dispatched 5,381 physical files to various divisions for review and declassification.

Weeding out of physical files

Since January, the Division has weeded out 2,169 physical files of ordinary nature after obtaining approval from the concerned Divisions of the Ministry. Of these, 369 files were cleared by September, and 1,800 files were weeded out in October as part of Swachhta Campaign 5.0. The Division also held three cleanliness drives during this period. In November and December 2025, an additional 96 physical files were weeded out. Overall, a total of 2,265 ordinary physical files have been destroyed in this year after approval from the concerned Ministry Division.

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ANNEXURE I

Agreements/MoUs/LoAs signed with Nepal in 2025

A. Details of MoUs /Agreements signed with Nepal in 2025

S. No.	Subject	Date of Signing
1.	MoU between the Government of India and the Government of Nepal to enhance cooperation in the Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH) sector, including waste management	3 March 2025
2.	MoU between the Supreme Court of India and the Supreme Court of Nepal in the field of judicial cooperation	7 April 2025
3.	MoU between the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Government of India, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development, Government of Nepal, on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture.	9 April 2025

B. Commercial MoUs/Agreements/LoAs in 2025

S. No.	Subject	Date of Signing
1.	MoU between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST) to Strengthen Indo-Nepal Scientific Cooperation	18 February 2025
2.	MoU between Nepal Electricity Authority and PowerGrid Corporation to jointly develop two new 400 kV cross-border transmission lines viz., the Dododhara-Bareilly and Inaruwa-Purnea lines.	23 April 2025

ANNEXURE II

List of Full Power 2025

S. No.	Date of Signing	Subject
1.	11.02.2025	MoU between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India and the Ministry of National Defence of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on Cooperation in the Field of Defence.
2.	11.02.2025	MoU between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe on Co-operation in the Field of Defence.
3.	16.04.2025	Headquarters Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).
4.	01.05.2025	Headquarters Agreement between the Government of The Republic of India and the International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA).
5.	19.05.2025	MoU for cooperation in Exchange of Trade and Customs Control on Goods between the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs of the Government of the Republic of India and Kenya Revenue Authority of the Government of the Republic of Kenya.
6.	19.05.2025	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on Cooperation and Mutual Administrative Assistance in Customs Matters.
7.	23.07.2025	MoU between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India and Ministry of Defence of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on Maritime Safety and Security Field.
8.	24.07.2025	Thirty Six Boundary Strip Maps between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Union of Myanmar.
9.	24.07.2025	India-United Kingdom Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement and Letter Confirming India and UK's Understanding to Negotiate Text of a Double Contributions Convention.
10.	24.07.2025	Negotiators' Note on Patents and Copyrights.
11.	08.09.2025	Bilateral Investment Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel.
12.	08.09.2025	Bilateral Investment Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel.
13.	17.09.2025	MoU between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Kingdom of Morocco on Cooperation in the Field of Defence.
14.	31.10.2025	MoU between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Defence of the State of Israel in the field of Defence Cooperation.
15.	16.12.2025	Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Sultanate of Oman.

ANNEXURE III

List of Ratifications 2025

S. No.	Subject	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisation	Date of Signing
1.	Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation among the Governments of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Kingdom of Bhutan, the Republic of India, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Nepal, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka and the Kingdom of Thailand.	Bangladesh, Bhutan, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand	03.04.2025
2.	The Treaty between the Republic of India and The Republic of Cuba on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters.	Cuba	24.12.2025
3.	The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) Between The Republic of India and The EFTA States.	EFTA States	14.05.2025
4.	The Strategic Partnership agreement between the Republic of India and the Arab Republic of Egypt.	Egypt	23.09.2025
5.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany on the Exchange and Mutual Protection of Classified Information – reg.	Germany	24.07.2025
6.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel for Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture.	Israel	01.05.2025
7.	MoU between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Kuwait on Cooperation in the Field of Defence – reg.	Kuwait	24.09.2025
8.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the State of Kuwait on Cooperation in the Field of Defence	Kuwait	22.12.2024
9.	MoU between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Federal Republic of Nigeria on Cooperation and Mutual Assistance in Custom Matters.	Nigeria	30.04.2025
10.	Agreement between the Republic of India and the Sultanate of Oman for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income.	Oman	21.03.2025
11.	The Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons between the Government of The Republic of India and the Government of The Republic of the Philippines.	Philippines	23.09.2025
12.	Agreement between the Republic of India and the Republic of Poland on Social Security.	Poland	25.11.2024
13.	The agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Qatar for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and for the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income.	Qatar	14.05.2025

S. No.	Subject	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisation	Date of Signing
14.	Agreement on the Establishment of Bilateral Strategic Partnership between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Qatar.	Qatar	06.06.2025
15.	The Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on the Procedure for sending Military Formations on the Warships and Military Aircraft of the Republic of India to the Territory of the Russian Federation and Military Formations, Warships and Military Aircraft of the Russian Federation to the Territory of the Republic of India and Organization of Reciprocal Logistics Support (RELOS).	Russian Federation	29.08.2025
16.	The Agreement between The Government of The Republic of India and The Government of The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on Mutual Exemption of Short Stay Visa Requirements for Holders of Diplomatic, Special and Official Passports.	Saudi Arabia	26.12.2025
17.	Agreement on the Universal Center for Countering Challenges and Threats to The Shanghai Cooperation Organization Member States Security.	Shanghai Cooperation Organization	23.12.2025
18.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income.	Sri Lanka	01.05.2025
19.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the government of the Democratic Republic of Timor-Leste on Exemption from Visa Requirement for Holders of Diplomatic and official or Service Passports.	Timor Leste	17.01.2025
20.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Togolese Republic on Reciprocal Visa Exemption for Holders of Diplomatic, Official or Service Passports.	Togo	03.02.2025
21.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Home Affairs, Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crimes Center (C3)	USA	17.01.2025
22.	Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. National Science Foundation and the Anusandhan National Research Foundation of the Republic of India concerning Research Cooperation on Critical and Emerging Technologies	USA	12.02.2025
23.	Implementing an arrangement between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States of America and the Indian Space Research Organisation of the Republic of India for cooperation on the International Space Station	USA	02.05.2025
24.	Bilateral Investment Treaty between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Uzbekistan	Uzbekistan	27.09.2024

ANNEXURE IV

List of Treaties concluded by India during 2025

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
1.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Angola on Cooperation in the Field of Ayurveda and other Traditional Systems of Medicine	**Angola**	2.05.2025	Ministry of Ayush
2.	Cooperation Programme Between the Government of India and the Government of the Republic of Angola in the Domain of Culture 2025-2029	**Angola**	2.05.2025	Ministry of Culture
3.	Agreement between the Government of the republic of India and The Government of the Angola for Authorizing The Dependents of Members of a Diplomatic Mission or Consular Post to Engage in Gainful Employment.	**Angola**	9.11.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
4.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying of The Republic of India and The Ministry of Fisheries and Marine Resources of The Republic of Angola on cooperation in the field of fisheries, Aquaculture and Marine Resources.	**Angola**	9.11.2025	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying
5.	Air Services Agreement between The Government of the Republic of India and The Government of the Republic of Angola.	**Angola**	9.11.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
6.	Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between Mineral Exploration and Consultancy Limited (MECL), a PSU under the Ministry of Mines, and the Provincial Government of Catamarca, Argentina, for deeper collaboration in exploration and resource development of critical minerals	**Argentina**	19.02.2025	Ministry of Mines
7.	Memorandum of Understanding between The Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS) of the Ministry of External Affairs of The Republic of India and The Diplomatic School of The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Republic of Armenia.	**Armenia**	10.03.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
8.	Memorandum of Understanding between Central Drugs Standard Control Organization Ministry of Health and Family Welfare Republic of India and Center of Drug and Medical Technology Expertise Ministry of Health Republic of Armenia on Cooperation in The Field of Medical Products Regulation	**Armenia**	10.03.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
9.	Agreement on cooperation in the field of Public Health and Medical Science between The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of The Republic of India and The Ministry of Health of The Republic of Armenia.	**Armenia**	7.11.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
10.	NTPC Limited with ASEAN Center for Energy	**ASEAN**	17.10.2025	Ministry of Power
11.	MoU for Collaboration in Renewable Energy between Government of UP, India and Smart Energy Council, Australia and Hinduja Group	**Australia**	22.04.2025	State Government of Uttar Pradesh
12.	MoU for Mutual Cooperation between International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA), India and Australian Securities & Investments Commission (ASIC), Australia	**Australia**	4.09.2025	IFSCA, Ministry of Finance
13.	Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) for Organic Products between APEDA, India and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia	**Australia**	24.09.2025	APEDA, Ministry of Commerce and Industry
14.	MoU on Food Safety between FSSAI, India and Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Australia	**Australia**	24.09.2025	FSSAI, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
15.	MoU on Submarine Search and Rescue Cooperation between Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy	**Australia**	9.10.2025	Ministry of Defence
16.	Implementing Arrangement on Defence Information Sharing between MoD, India and Australian Defence Force	**Australia**	9.10.2025	Ministry of Defence
17.	Terms of Reference establishing Joint Staff Talks (Defence) between India and Australia	**Australia**	9.10.2025	Ministry of Defence
18.	Renewal of MoU on cooperation in the field of Public Administration and Grievance Reforms between Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), India and Australian Public Service Commission (APSC)	**Australia**	9.10.2025	DARPG, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
19.	NTPC Ltd. and Sustainable Energy for All, Austria	**Austria**	9.06.2025	Ministry of Power
20.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare Government of the Republic of India and Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Royal Government of Bhutan on Technical Cooperation in the field of Agriculture, Livestock and Allied Sectors	**Bhutan**	27.08.2025	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
21.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Royal Government of Bhutan for the the Establishment of Railway Links between India and Bhutan	**Bhutan**	29.09.2025	Ministry of Railways

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
22.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources of the Royal Government of Bhutan on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy	**Bhutan**	11.11.2025	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
23.	Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation among the Governments of the People's Republic of Bangladesh, the Kingdom of Bhutan, the Republic of India, the Republic of the Union of Myanmar, Nepal, the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka, and the Kingdom of Thailand.	**BIMSTEC**	3.04.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
24.	Memorandum of Understanding for the Establishment of a joint commission between The Government of The Republic of India and The Government of The Plurinational State of Bolivia	**Bolivia**	6.02.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
25.	Programme of Cultural Exchange Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia for the period 2025-2027	**Bolivia**	20.03.2025	Ministry of Culture
26.	MOU on Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)	**Bolivia**	20.03.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
27.	Construction of rooms (psychomotricity room, physics and chemistry laboratory room) for the "Escuela superior de Formacion de Maestros Plurietnica del Oriente y Chaco-Camiri"	**Bolivia**	October 2025	Ministry of External Affairs
28.	Implementation of three reinforced concrete tanks in three municipalities vulnerable to drought in Cochabamba	**Bolivia**	October 2025	Ministry of External Affairs
29.	Construction and Implementation of Agroecological Vegetable Production Greeenhouses at the "Ancocagua Academy"	**Bolivia**	October 2025	Ministry of External Affairs
30.	Construction of four greenhouses for the Rafael Quispe de Lampaya educational unit (Villazon-Postosi)	**Bolivia**	October 2025	Ministry of External Affairs
31.	Construction of workshop classrooms for the automotive mechanics specialties at the "Jose David Berrios" Teacher training college in Caiza "D"	**Bolivia**	October 2025	Ministry of External Affairs
32.	Protocol to MoU between Government of India and Government of the Plurinational State of Bolivia on cooperation in the field of Geology and Mineral Resources	**Bolivia**	24.10.2025	Ministry of Mines
33.	Agreement between the Government of Federative Republic of Brazil and the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in Combating International Terrorism and Transnational Organized Crime	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
34.	Agreement between the Federative Republic of Brazil and the Republic of India on the Exchange and Mutual Protection of Classified Information	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs
35.	MOU between the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry of India and the Secretariat of Competitiveness and Regulatory Policy, Ministry of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of Brazil for Cooperation in the Field of Intellectual Property	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of Commerce
36.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Management and Innovation in Public Services of the Federative Republic of Brazil on Cooperation in the Field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
37.	MOU between the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) and the Brazilian Agricultural Research Corporation (EMBRAPA) for Cooperation in Agricultural Research	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
38.	MOU between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of India and the Ministry of Management and Innovation in Public Services of Brazil on Cooperation in the Field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
39.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Mines and Energy of Brazil on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy	**Brazil**	8.07.2025	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
40.	Implementation Plan for the BRICS Framework Programme 1st Innovation Call 2025 between Brazilian Innovation Agency (Finep, Brazil) and National Council for Scientific and Technological Development (Brazil) and Ministry of Science and Technology (MOST, China) and Science, Technology & Innovation Funding Authority (STDF, Egypt) and (CSIR, India) and Department of Biotechnology (DBT, India) and Department of Science and Technology (DST, India) and Iran National Innovation Fund (INIF, Iran) and Foundation for Assistance to Small Innovative Enterprises (FASIE, Russia) And Russian Centre for Science Information (RCSI, Russia) and Technology Innovation Agency (TIA, South Africa) and Water Research Commission (WRC, South Africa)	**BRICS**	27.08.2025	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
41.	Extension of the Agreement dated 16 September 2015 signed between Government of the Republic of India and the Royal Government of Cambodia on Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIP) through exchange of Note Verbales	**Cambodia**	19.09.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
42.	Memorandum of Understanding made and entered into by and Between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR), Government of India and the Preah Sihanouk Raja Buddhist University on the establishment of ICCR Chair of Sanskrit and Buddhist Studies	**Cambodia**	21.08.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
43.	Cultural Exchange Programme Between the Ministry of Culture of the Government of India and the Ministry of Culture, Arts and Heritage of the Republic of Chile	**Chile**	1.04.2025	Ministry of Culture
44.	Letter of Intent on Antarctica Cooperation	**Chile**	1.04.2025	Government of the Republic of India
45.	India – Chile Cultural Exchange Program for 2024-28	**Chile**	1.04.2025	Ministry of Culture
46.	MoU between National Service for Disaster Prevention and Response, (SENAPRED) and National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) on disaster management	**Chile**	1.04.2025	National Disaster Management Authority
47.	MoU between CODELCO and Hindustan Copper Ltd. (HCL)	**Chile**	1.04.2025	Hindustan Copper Limited
48.	Programme of Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology between the Ministry of Science, Education and Youth of the Republic of Croatia and the Ministry of Science & Technology of the Republic of India for the Period 2025 – 2029	**Croatia**	18.06.2025	Ministry of Science and Technology
49.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and University of Zagreb on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Hindi	**Croatia**	18.06.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
50.	Protocol of Cultural Exchange and Collaboration Between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Cuba for the years 2025-2030	**Cuba**	10.11.2025	Ministry of Culture
51.	Treaty Between the Republic of India and the Republic of Cuba on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matterss	**Cuba**	10.11.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
52.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and University of Nicosia on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**Cyprus**	15.06.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
53.	Memorandum of Understanding Between The Ministry of Power, The Republic Of India And The Ministry Of Climate, Energy And Utilities, The Kingdom Of Denmark on (India-Denmark)	**Denmark**	2.05.2025	Ministry of Power
54.	Joint Action Plan (JAP) between Director Dominican General of Customs, Dominican Republic and Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) India laying a roadmap for signing of Mutual Recognition Agreement (MRA)	**Dominican Republic**	4.08.2025	CBIC, Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance
55.	Memorandum of Understanding between Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service (SSIFS), Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and Diplomatic Academy “Galo Plaza Lasso” of Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Human Mobility of Ecuador.	**Ecuador**	5.11.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
56.	India – EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership agreement	**EFTA**	10.03.2024	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
57.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Defence of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia on Cooperation in the Field of Defence	**Ethiopia**	12.02.2025	Ministry of Defence
58.	Administrative agreement between the Ministry of External Affairs, Government of The Republic of India and The European Commission Establishment a Framework for Trilateral Cooperation in Third Countries.	**European Commission**	11.06.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
59.	Memorandum of Understanding between National Sugar Institute (NSI) Kanpur and Fiji Sugar Corporation Limited, Balawa, Lautoka, Fiji for Cooperation in the fields of Sugarcane Processing and Manpower Development	**Fiji**	19.03.2025	National Sugar Institute (NSI) Kanpur
60.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Republic of Fiji and Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission (IPC), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the Republic of India	**Fiji**	9.05.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
61.	Memorandum of Understanding between the National Institute of of Electronics and Information Technology and Pacific Polytech, Fiji on Cooperation in the field of Human Capacity Skilling and Upskilling	**Fiji**	20.08.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
62.	Memorandum of Understanding between Fiji Development Bank and National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development	**Fiji**	22.08.2025	National Bank for Agricultural and Rural Development
63.	Memorandum of Understanding between Confederation of Indian Industry and Fiji Commerce & Employers Federation FCEF	**Fiji**	22.08.2025	Confederation of Indian Industry
64.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Republic of Fiji regarding Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIP)	**Fiji**	25.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
65.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and Department of National Trade Measurement and Standards (DNTMS) through the Ministry of Trade, Co-operatives, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises and Communications for and on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Fiji on Cooperation in the Field of Standardization	**Fiji**	25.08.2025	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
66.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Republic of Fiji for Design, Construction, Commissioning, Operation and Maintenance of a Super-speciality Hospital in Fiji	**Fiji**	25.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
67.	Agreement between M/s. HLL Lifecare Limited and Ministry of Health and Medical Services, Fiji on Supply of Medicines under Janaushadhi Scheme	**Fiji**	25.08.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
68.	Declaration of Intent on Migration and Mobility between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Fiji	**Fiji**	25.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
69.	Implementation Arrangement was signed between Department of Science and Technology and Innovation Funding agency Business Finland	**Finland**	18.06.2025	Department of Science & Technology
70.	Letter of Intent between the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of the Republic of India and the Institute National de Recherche in Informatique et en Automatique (Inria), France to establish bi-national Indo-French Centre for Digital sciences.	**France**	30.01.2025	Ministry of Science and Technology
71.	Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific and Technological Cooperation between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) of India and the National Centre for Scientific Research (CNRS), France	**France**	05.03.2025	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
72.	Declaration of Intent Between the Ecological Transition, Biodiversity, Forests, Marine Affairs and Fisheries of the French Republic and the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of the Republic of India In the Field of Environment	**France**	22.09.2025	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
73.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the French Republic in the area of cooperation in the fields of Skill Development, Vocational education and training	**France**	22.07.2025	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
74.	Joint Declaration of Intent between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of the French Republic on Indo-Pacific Triangular Development Cooperation.	**France**	10.02.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
75.	Memorandum of Understanding between CSI-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB) and German Partner	**Germany**	05.06.2025	CSIR-Institute of Genomics and Integrative Biology (IGIB)
76.	Memorandum of Understanding between Universitat Siegen and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) , Bhilai	**Germany**	June 2025	IIT Bhilai
77.	LOI between Flexora (TY Dresden) and IIT Madras under TU Dresden Transcampus IIT Madras – Innovation Partnership	**Germany**	22.05.2025	IIT Madras
78.	LOI between TuTr Hyperloop (IIT Madras) and Thyssenkrupp GmbH under TU Dresden Transcampus IIT Madras – Innovation Partnership	**Germany**	22.05.2025	IIT Madras
79.	Memorandum of Understanding between IIT Kharagpur and Technische Universitat Darmstadt (TUD)	**Germany**	24.05.2025	Ministry of Education
80.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and The Government of The Republic of Ghana on the Establishment of A Joint Commission Meeting (JSM) Signed on 13 June 2016	**Ghana**	02.07.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
81.	Memorandum of Understanding between Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Ministry of AYUSH, Government of the Republic of India and University of Health and Allied Sciences represented by the Institute of Traditional and Alternative Medicine, PMB 31,Ho, Ghana	**Ghana**	02.07.2025	Ministry of Ayush
82.	Memorandum of Understanding in The Field of Standardization and Conformity Assessment between Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and Ghana Standards Authority (GSA).	**Ghana**	02.07.2025	Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
83.	Cultural Exchange Programme (CEP) between The Government of The Republic of India and The Government of The Republic of Ghana	**Ghana**	02.07.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
84.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Honduras for Supply & Installation of Micro & Small Enterprises (MSEs) Manufacturing Projects	**Honduras**	22.10.2025	Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
85.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and University of Iceland on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**Iceland**	22.01.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
86.	Cultural Exchange Programme between the Ministry of Culture of The Republic of India and The Ministry of Culture of The Republic of Indonesia for the period 2025-2028.	**Indonesia**	24.01.2025	Ministry of Culture
87.	Protocol for The Extension of the MoU between the Indian Coast Guard and Badan Keamanan Laut Republic Indonesia on Maritime Safety and Security Cooperation.	**Indonesia**	25.01.2025	Indian Coast Guard
88.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of The Republic of India and The Ministry of Health of The Republic of Indonesia on Health Cooperation	**Indonesia**	22.01.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
89.	Memorandum of Understanding between Pharmacopoeia Commission for Indian Medicine & Homoeopathy, Ministry of Ayush of The Republic of India and Indonesian Food and Drug Authority of The Republic of Indonesia on Cooperation in The Field of Traditional Medicine Quality Assurance	**Indonesia**	22.01.2025	Ministry of Ayush
90.	Memorandum of Understanding between The Ministry of foreign Affairs of The Republic of India and The Ministry of External Affairs of The Republic of Indonesia on Policy Dialogue between Government and Interaction between Think Tanks.	**Indonesia**	01.05.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
91.	Memorandum of Understanding between The Ministry of foreign Affairs of The Republic of India and The Ministry of External Affairs of The Republic of Indonesia on Policy Dialogue between Government and Interaction between Think Tanks.	**Indonesia**	23.04.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
92.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Communications and Digital Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia on Cooperation in the Fields of Digital Development	**Indonesia**	22.01.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
93.	Memorandum of Understanding between Central Drugs Standard Control Organization The ministry of Health and Family Welfare the Republic of India and Iran Food and Drug Administration Ministry of Health and Medical Education Goivernment of Islamic Republic of Iran on Cooperation in the Field of Medical Products Regulation	**Iran**	08.05.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
94.	Memorandum of Understanding on the Implementation of Bilateral Agreement on Customs Cooperation between the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), India and the Islamic Republic of Iran Customs Administration (IRICA)	**Iran**	08.05.2025	CBIC, Ministry of Finance
95.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Republic of India and the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Ireland	**Ireland**	07.03.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
96.	Bilateral Investment Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the State of Israel.	**Israel**	08.09.2025	Ministry of Finance
97.	Memorandum Of Understanding Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and University of Bergamo, Italy on the establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**Italy**	13.03.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
98.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Luiss Libera Università Internazionale on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**Italy**	02.04.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
99.	Memorandum Of Understanding between the Ministry of University and Research of the Italian Republic and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India for cooperation in the field of scientific research	**Italy**	11.04.2025	Ministry of Science and Technology
100.	Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Jal Shakti of the Republic of India and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan in the Areas of Decentralized Domestic Waste water Management	**Japan**	20.08.2025	Ministry of Jal Shakti
101.	Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of the Republic of India and the Ministry of the Environment of Japan in the Field of Environmental Cooperation	**Japan**	28.08.2025	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
102.	Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of Cultural Exchange between the Ministry of Culture of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan	**Japan**	29.08.2025	Ministry of Culture

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
103.	Joint Statement of Intent between the Ministry of Science and Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology of Japan for further strengthening the India-Japan relations for the future in the form of an India-Japan Science Technology and Innovation Partnership	**Japan**	29.08.2025	Ministry of Science and Technology
104.	Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Japan	**Japan**	28.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
105.	Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan on India-Japan Digital Partnership 2.0	**Japan**	25.08.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
106.	Joint Declaration of Intent between the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy of Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Economy, Trade, and Industry of Japan on Clean Hydrogen and Clean Ammonia	**Japan**	25.08.2055	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
107.	Memorandum of Cooperation between the Ministry of Mines of India and the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry of Japan in the field of Mineral Resources 2025	**Japan**	28.08.2025	Ministry of Mines
108.	Implementation Arrangement between the Indian Space Research Organization Republic of India and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency Japan Concerning Joint Lunar Polar Exploration Mission	**Japan**	29.08.2025	Indian Space Research Organisation
109.	Memorandum of Cooperation of the Joint Crediting Mechanism between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Japan	**Japan**	07.08.2025	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
110.	NTPC Green Energy Ltd. and ENEOS Corporation, Japan	**Japan**	10.10.2025	Ministry of Power
111.	Mode of Application of Article 26A of The Convention between The Government of Japan and The Government of The Republic of India for The Avoidance of Double Taxation and The Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income Settled between The Competent Authorities of Japan and The Republic of India.	**Japan**	30.06.2025	Ministry of Finance
112.	Plan of Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kazakhstan.	**Kazakhstan.**	05.06.2025	Ministry of External Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
113.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Kenya and he Government of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of wildlife conservation and management	**Kenya**	23.05.2025	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
114.	Implementation Arrangement between Centre for United Nations Peace Keeping (CUNPK), India and International Peace Support Training Centre Kenya for Cooperation in United Nations Peacekeeping Operations Training	**Kenya**	16.10.2025	Centre for United Nations Peace Keeping (CUNPK), India
115.	Program of Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic for the period of 2025-27	**Kyrgyzstan**	05.06.2025	Ministry of External Affairs of India
116.	Renewal of Agreement between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic regarding Indian grant assistance for implementation of Quick Impact Projects	**Lao PDR**	21.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
117.	Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation and Exchange of News between National News Agency (NNA) - Lebanon and Asian News International (ANI)	**Lebanon**	24.04.2025	Asian News International
118.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Information, Communications, Science, Technology and Innovation of the Kingdom of Lesotho and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital Transformation	**Lesotho**	21.07.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
119.	Memorandum of Understanding between National Centre for Good Governance, Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Government of India and the National School of Administration of Madagascar, Ministry of Labour, Employment and Civil Service, Government of Madagascar on Capacity Building Training Programme for Civil Servants of Madagascar.	**Madagascar**	25.03.2025	Department of Personnel & Training
120.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and University of Malawi on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**Malawi**	29.09.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
121.	Memorandum of Understanding between the National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC), Republic of India and Small and Medium Enterprises Corporation Malaysia on Co-operation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of Republic of India and Malaysia	**Malaysia**	16.10.2025	Ministry of MSME

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
122.	Umbrella Line of Credit Agreement between the Government of Republic of Maldives and the Export-Import Bank of India	**Maldives**	23.07.2025	Ministry of Finance
123.	Terms of Reference For The Negotiations A Free Trade Agreement Between The Government Of the Republic Of India And The Republic Of The Maldives	**Maldives**	25.07.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
124.	Memorandum of Understanding on Pharmacopoeial Cooperation between the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission [IPC], Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the Republic of India and aldives Food and Drug Authority (MFDA), Ministry of Health, Republic of Maldives	**Maldives**	25.07.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
125.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Fisheries and Ocean Resources of the Republic of Maldives and the Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry And Dairying, Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the field of Fisheries and Aquaculture	**Maldives**	25.07.2025	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry And Dairying
126.	Network to Network Crossborder Remittance Agreement	**Maldives**	24.07.2025	NCPI International Payments Limited
127.	MoU between Indian Institute Of Tropical Meteorology (IITM), Ministry Of Earth Sciences, Republic Of India and Maldive Meteorological Services (MMS), Ministry Of Tourism And Environment (MoTE), Republic Of Maldives	**Maldives**	25.07.2025	Ministry of Earth Sciences
128.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Homeland Security and Technology of the Government of the Republic of Maldives on Cooperation in the field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions Implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation	**Maldives**	25.07.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
129.	MoU between High Commission of India, Male' representing the Maldives Government of India and Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Government of Maldives and Ministry of Transport and Civil Aviation for Construction/Build of R. Ungoofaaru Zone Hub Terminal	**Maldives**	18.05.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
130.	Memorandum of Understanding between India and Maldives regarding Indian Grant Assistance for implementation of High Impact Community Development Project – Phase-III through Localbodies	**Maldives**	03.01.2025	Ministry of External Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
131.	Memorandum of Understanding between the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) and The Malta Financial Services Authority (MFSA) in relation to Mutual Cooperation	**Malta**	27.10.2025	International Financial Services Centres Authority
132.	Technical agreement on Sharing White Shipping Information between The Indian Navy and The Mauritius Police Force.	**Mauritius**	05.03.2025	Ministry of Defence
133.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, Republic of Mauritius.	**Mauritius**	12.03.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
134.	Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of Science and Technology between The Department of Science and Technology of the Government of the Republic of India and The Ministry of Tertiary Education, Science and Research, Republic of Mauritius	**Mauritius**	05.09.2025	Department of Science and Technology
135.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Industry, SME and Cooperatives (SME Division) of the Republic of Mauritius and the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of the Republic of India on Cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises	**Mauritus**	10.03.2025	Ministry of MSME
136.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Mauritius on Cooperation in the field of Power	**Mauritus**	10.09.2025	Ministry of Power
137.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and the Mexican Institute of Industrial Property of the United Mexican States on Cooperation in the field of Intellectual Property Rights	**Mexico**	19.03.2025	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
138.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Agriculture and Food Industry of the Republic of Moldova on Bilateral Cooperation in the field of Agriculture and Allied Sectors.	**Moldova**	19.03.2025	Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
139.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Mines of the Republic of India and Ministry of Industry & Mineral Resources of Mongolia on Cooperation in the fields of Geology & Mineral Resources	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ministry of Mines

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
140.	Memorandum of Understanding between Immigration Agency of the Ministry of Justice & Home Affairs of Mongolia and the Bureau of Immigration of Ministry of Home Affairs of the Republic of India	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs
141.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Mongolia regarding Indian Grant Assistance for implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIP)	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
142.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Mongolia on Cooperation in Humanitarian Aid and Assistance	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
143.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Digital Development, Innovation & Communication of Mongolia on cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital transformation	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
144.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Mongolia on the promotion of Cooperatives	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ministry of Cooperation
145.	Cultural Exchange Programme between the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Culture, Sports, Tourism and Youth of Mongolia for the Years 2025-2029	**Mongolia**	14.10.2025	Ministry of Culture
146.	Memorandum of Understanding between Government of Mongolia and the Government of the Republic of India for the Conservation and Restoration of the Bogd Khaan Winter Palace	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Archaeological Survey of India
147.	Memorandum of Understanding between Arkhangai Province, Mongolia and Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council (LAHDC), Leh Administration of Union Territory of Ladakh. Republic of India	**Mongolia**	13.10.2025	Ladakh Autonomous Hill Development Council
148.	Memorandum of Understanding Between the Embassy of India, Yangon, the Government of the Republic of India And Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement, Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar For Support for Operating Vocational Training and Teaching aids for rehabilitation of ex-Drug Addicts	**Myanmar**	21.01.2025	Ministry of External Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
149.	Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Republic of India, through the Embassy of India, Yangon, And the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar through Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement For Upgrading existing Schools for Home Science, Bahan Township, Yangon, Myanmar	**Myanmar**	21.01.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
150.	Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Republic of India, through the Embassy of India, Yangon, And the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar through Ministry of Social Welfare, Relief and Resettlement For Supply of Machinery and Equipment to 11 Home Science Schools	**Myanmar**	21.01.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
151.	Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for appointment of a Private Operator for Operation and Maintenance of Sittwe Port, Paletwa Inland Water Transport Terminal and Associated Facilities	**Myanmar**	23.04.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
152.	Memorandum of Understanding Between the Embassy of India, Yangon, the Government of the Republic of India And Department of Marine Administration, Ministry of Transport and Communications, the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for Simulator Based Training, Assessment and Exam Systems for Seafarers	**Myanmar**	27.06.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
153.	Programme of Cooperation (PoC) in Science & Technology Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar	**Myanmar**	29.07.2025	Ministry of Science and Technology
154.	MOU on Cooperation in the Field of Implementation of Pilot Project for Digital Identity in Myanmar	**Myanmar**	29.07.2025	National Institute of Smart Government, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
155.	Extension of Agreement regarding Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIP)	**Myanmar**	18.07.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
156.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar for Authorizing the Dependents of Members of a Diplomatic Mission or Consular Post to engaged in Gainful Employment.	**Myanmar**	26.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
157.	Power Grid Corporation of India with DEPP. Ministry of Electric Power, Myanmar	**Myanmar**	11.07.2025	Ministry of Power
158.	MoU for Implementation of Project – 'Cycling for a stronger Nauru- developing athletes and promoting health through cycling'	**Nauru**	28.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
159.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Supreme Court of India and the Supreme Court of Nepal in the field of Judicial Cooperation	**Nepal**	07.04.2025	Supreme Court
160.	Memorandum of Understanding between Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR), India and Nepal Academy of Science and Technology (NAST), Nepal	**Nepal**	18.02.2025	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
161.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and CNAS, Tribhuvan University on the renewal of the ICCR Chair of Hindi and Indian Studies	**Nepal**	14.05.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
162.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Nepal on Enhancing Cooperation in the Water, Sanitation, Hygiene (WASH) Sector including Waste Management	**Nepal**	03.03.2025	Ministry of Jal Shakti
163.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of Nepal on Cooperation in the Field of Agriculture	**Nepal**	09.04.2025	Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
164.	Power Grid Corporation of India with Nepal Electricity Authority	**Nepal**	22.04.2025	Ministry of Power
165.	Power Grid Corporation of India with Nepal Electricity Authority	**Nepal**	29.10.2025	Ministry of Power
166.	Power Grid Corporation of India with Nepal Electricity Authority	**Nepal**	29.10.2025	Ministry of Power
167.	Letter of Intent between the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Defence of the Kingdom of the Netherlands on Defence Cooperation.	**Netherlands**	09.06.2025	Ministry of Defence
168.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the Establishment of Joint Trade and Investment Committee	**Netherlands**	13.05.2025	Ministry of Commerce

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
169.	Memorandum of Understanding on Cooperation in the field of pharmaceuticals and medical device products between the Department of Pharmaceuticals, Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Health, Welfare and Sport of the Netherlands	**Netherlands**	19.6.2025	Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
170.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Economic Affairs of the Netherlands and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands on the India-Netherlands Partnership on Semiconductors and Related Emerging Technologies	**Netherlands**	17.05.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
171.	Memorandum of Understanding on Maritime Cooperation Between the Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands and the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India	**Netherlands**	27.10.2025	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India
172.	Letter of Intent between the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India and Ministry of Infrastructure and Water Management of the Netherlands on the Establishment of a Green and Digital Sea Corridor between India and the Netherlands	**Netherlands**	27.10.2025	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India
173.	Letter of Intent Between the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change of the Republic of India and the Ministry for Primary Industries of New Zealand	**New Zealand**	17.03.2025	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
174.	Agreement between Government of India and Government of the Republic of Nicaragua regarding Indian Grant Assistance for implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)	**Nicaragua**	10.12.2024	Ministry of External Affairs
175.	MoU between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI), Norway	**Norway**	23.7.2025	Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
176.	NEEPCO Lad With Norwegian Geotechnical Institute AS (NGI), Norway	**Norway**	27.02.2025	Ministry of Power
177.	Agreement between Government of India and Government of the Republic of Panama regarding Indian Grant Assistance for implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)	**Panama**	05.02.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
178.	MoU to establish a Joint Commission Mechanism (JCM) between India & Paraguay	**Paraguay**	02.06.2025	

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
179.	Agreement between the National Archives of the Republic of India and the General Archives of the Nation of Peru	**Peru**	18.03.2025	Ministry of Culture
180.	Mou on safety and distribution of Liquid Petroleum Gas (LP-Gas) between the supervisory agency of investment of energy and mining of peru (OSINERGMIN) and Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)	**Peru**	25.08.2025	Indian Oil Corporation Limited
181.	Interinstitutional Cooperation Agreement between the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and the Geological,Mining, Metallurgical Institute of the Republic of Peru (INGEMMET)	**Peru**	23.09.2025	Ministry of Mines
182.	Cultural Exchange Programme between the government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines for the Year 2025-2030.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
183.	Implementation Program between the Ministry of Tourism of the Government of the Republic of India and the Department of Tourism of the Government of the Republic of the Philippines on Tourism Cooperation 2025-2028.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Tourism
184.	Treaty on the Transfer of Sentenced Persons between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs
185.	Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance (MLAT) in Criminal Matters between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Philippines.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs
186.	Programme of Cooperation in the fields of Science and Technology for the period of 2025-2028 between the Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of India and the Department of Science and Technology of the Republic of the Philippines	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Department of Science and Technology
187.	Terms of Reference between the Indian Air Force and The Philippine Air Force on Air Staff Talks 2025	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Defence
188.	Terms of Reference for the Indian Army – Philippine Army on Army-To-Army Staff Talks.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Defence
189.	Terms of Reference between Indian Navy and Philippine Navy on Navy-To-Navy Talks 2025.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Defence
190.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of the Philippines on Cooperation in the field of Digital Technologies	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
191.	Statement of Intent between Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Republic of India and Philippine Space Agency, Republic of the Philippines.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Department of Space
192.	Terms of Reference (ToR) for the negotiations on a Preferential Trade Agreement (PTA) between the Republic of India and the Republic of the Philippines.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Ministry of Commerce and Industry
193.	Terms of Reference (ToR) for enhanced Maritime Cooperation between the Indian Coast Guard and the Philippine Coast Guard.	**Philippines**	05.08.2025	Indian Coast Guards
194.	Agreement between India and Russian Federation on Cooperation on Reciprocal Logistics Support (RELOS) for the Armed Forces of the Republic of India and the Russian Federation	**Russia**	18.02.2025	Ministry of Defence
195.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in Combating Irregular Migration.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
196.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Russian Federation on Temporary Labor Activity of Citizens of one State in the Territory of the other State.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
197.	MoU between the Ministry of Transport of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of the Government of the Republic of India on the Training of Specialists for Ships Operating in Polar Waters.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Minstry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
198.	MoU between the Maritime Board of the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways of the Republic of India.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Minstry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
199.	Protocol between the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs of the Government of the Republic of India and the Federal Customs Service (Russian Federation) for Cooperation in exchange of Pre-arrival information in respect of Goods and Vehicles Moved between the Republic of India and the Russian Federation.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
200.	Agreement between the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Health of the Russian Federation on the Cooperation in the field of Healthcare, Medical Education and Science.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
201.	Agreement between the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare of the Republic of India and the Federal Service for Surveillance on Consumer Rights Protection and Human Well-being (Russian Federation) on cooperation in the field of food safety.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
202.	Bilateral Agreement between Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications of the Republic of India and Joint Stock Company (JSC), Russian Post.	**Russia**	04.12.2025	Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications
203.	MoU for Cooperation and Collaboration on Broadcasting between Prasar Bharati, India and Joint Stock Company Gazprom-Media Holding, Russian Federation.	**Russia**	05.12.2025	Prasar Bharati
204.	MoU for Cooperation and Collaboration on Broadcasting between Prasar Bharati, India and TV BRICS Joint Stock Company Russia	**Russia**	05.12.2025	Prasar Bharati
205.	MoU for Cooperation and Collaboration on Broadcasting between Prasar Bharati, India and National Media Group, Russia	**Russia**	05.12.2025	Prasar Bharati
206.	MoU for Cooperation and Collaboration on Broadcasting between Prasar Bharati, Republic of India and Big Asia Media Group, Russia.	**Russia**	05.12.2025	Prasar Bharati
207.	Addendum to the MoU for Cooperation and Collaboration on Broadcasting between Prasar Bharati, Republic of India and ANO “TV-Novosti” {Russia Today TV (RTTV) channel}, Russia.	**Russia**	05.12.2025	Prasar Bharati
208.	Bilateral Agreement between Department of Posts, Ministry of Communications, Government of India and Saudi Post Corporation (SPL) for Inward Surface Parcel	**Saudi Arabia**	April 2025	Ministry of Communications
209.	NTPC Limited with Saudi Electricity Company, Saudi Arabia	**Saudi Arabia**	18.09.2025	Ministry of Power
210.	Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Audit Service Sierra Leone and Comptroller and Auditor General of the Republic of India on cooperation in the field of External Audit in the public sector	**Sierra Leone**	08.09.2025	Comptroller and Auditor General
211.	Memorandum of Understanding between The Ministry of Technical and Higher Education, Government of Republic of Sierra Leone and EdCIL (India) Limited, a Govt. of India Enterprise of the Ministry of Education	**Sierra Leone**	27.06.2025	Ministry of Education
212.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Public Administration & Political Affairs, Government of Republic of Sierra Leone and EdCIL (India) Limited, a Government of India Enterprise of the Ministry of Education	**Sierra Leone**	28.06.2025	Ministry of Education

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
213.	Memorandum of Understanding between Airports Authority of India (AAI) and Civil Aviation Authority of Singapore (CAAS) for Cooperation in Training, Research & Development in the Field of Civil Aviation	**Singapore**	01.09.2025	Ministry of Civil Aviation
214.	Reserve Bank of India and the Monetary Authority of Singapore Memorandum of Understanding on digital Asset Innovation	**Singapore**	03.09.2025	Ministry of Finance
215.	Memorandum of Understanding between India National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre, Republic of India and Economic Development Board, Office for Space Technology & Industry, Republic of Singapore on Promoting Collaboration in the Space Sector	**Singapore**	04.09.2025	Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre
216.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Singapore concerning Cooperation on a Green and Digital Shipping Corridor (GDSC)	**Singapore**	03.09.2025	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
217.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Trade and Industry of Republic of Singapore for Establishment of a National Centre of Excellence for Skilling in Advanced Manufacturing in national Skill Training Institute, Chennai	**Singapore**	03.09.2025	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
218.	Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) of Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programmes between Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) and Singapore Customs	**Singapore**	20.05.2025	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)
219.	Mutual Recognition Arrangement (MRA) of Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) programmes	**Singapore**	20.05.2025	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC)
220.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic and the Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service, the Ministry of External Affairs, Republic Of India	**Slovak Republic**	09.04.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
221.	Memorandum of Understanding between National Small Industries Corporation Ltd., Republic of India and Slovak Business Agency, Slovak Republic on Co-operation in the Field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises of Republic of India and Slovak Republic	**Slovak Republic**	09.04.2025	Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
222.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Digital Economy of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka on Cooperation in the field of Sharing successful Digital Solutions implemented at Population Scale for Digital Transformation	**Sri Lanka**	05.04.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
223.	Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka For implementation of 320 kV, 1000 MW VSC HVDC interconnection between Madurai New, India to Mannar, Sri Lanka for Import/Export of Power	**Sri Lanka**	05.04.2025	Ministry of Power
224.	Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka (G2G Agreement)	**Sri Lanka**	05.04.2025	Ministry of Power
225.	Agreement between Government of the Republic of India and Government of the Republic of Suriname regarding Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)	**Suriname**	09.09.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
226.	Renewal of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Switzerland, represented by the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs and the Government of the Republic of India, represented by the Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change on Technical Cooperation in the Field of Climate Change and Environment	**Switzerland**	22.09.2025	Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
227.	Letter of Intent (LoI) signed between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), Department of Biotechnology (DBT), of Health & Government of India, and the Swiss National Science Foundation (SNSF), Switzerland	**Switzerland**	11.03.2025	Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
228.	Renewal of MoU between The Indian Council of Medical Research and Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi), Switzerland	**Switzerland**	13.10.2025	Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare
229.	Agreement between the Government of the Republic of India and the International Labour Organisation on a feasibility study on an International reference classification of occupation by skill and qualification requirements	**Switzerland, International Labour Organisation**	16.09.2025	Ministry of Labour & Employment

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
230.	Memorandum of understanding on Cooperation between the Center for Strategic Research under the President of the Republic of Tajikistan and DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence at RIS, New Delhi, Bharat/India	**Tajikistan**	12.07.2025	DAKSHIN – Global South Centre of Excellence at RIS, New Delhi, India
231.	Memorandum of Understanding Between Tanzania Atomic Energy Commission (TAEC) and the Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP)	**Tanzania**	11.08.2025	Department of Atomic Energy
232.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between the Indian Council for Cultural Relations and Silpakorn University on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Sanskrit	**Thailand**	21.02.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
233.	Memorandum of Understanding between Sagarmala Division, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways, Government of India and The Fine Arts Department, Ministry of Culture, Kingdom of Thailand for Development of National Maritime Heritage Complex (NMHC), at Lothal, Gujarat	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways
234.	Memorandum of Understanding between National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC), the Republic of India and Office of Small and Medium Enterprises Promotion (OSMEP), the Kingdom of Thailand on Co-operation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME)	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises
235.	Joint Declaration on the Establishment of India-Thailand Strategic Partnership	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
236.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society of the Kingdom of Thailand on Cooperation in the field of Digital Technologies	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
237.	Memorandum of Understanding between North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Ltd (NEHHDC), India and Creative Economic Agency (CEA) of the Kingdom of Thailand and for Cooperation in handlooms and handicraft sector	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	North Eastern Handicrafts and Handlooms Development Ltd (NEHHDC)
238.	Memorandum of Understanding Between the Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region of the Republic of India and The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand on Cooperation in Artisnal Crafts and Development Of Artisan Communities	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	Ministry of Development of North Eastern Region

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
239.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Government of the Republic of India and the Ministry of Digital Economy and Society of the Kingdom of Thailand on cooperation in the field of Digital Technologies	**Thailand**	03.04.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
240.	Programme of Cultural Exchanges Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the period 2025-2028	**Trinidad and Tobago**	04.07.2025	Ministry of Culture
241.	Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Hindi and Indian Studies	**Trinidad and Tobago**	04.07.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
242.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic Of India and the Ministry of Foreign and Caricom Affairs of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for Co-operation on Diplomatic Training	**Trinidad and Tobago**	04.07.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
243.	Protocol between the Government of the Republic of India and the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine on amendment of the Agreement between the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine and the Government of the Republic of India on Visa free travels for holders of Diplomatic Passport of 25 November, 2011	**Ukraine**	18.03.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
244.	Bilateral Agreement for the Tracked Packet and Registered Service signed between Royal Mail Group Limited and Department of Posts Ministry of Communications, Government of the Republic of India	**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**	—	Ministry of Communications
245.	Memorandum of Understanding made and entered between Indian Council of Cultural Relations and the University Court of the University of Glasgow on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**	22.10.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR)
246.	Programme of Cultural Cooperation Between the Government of the Republic of India and His Majesty's Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland for the years 2025-30	**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**	02.05.2025	Ministry of Culture
247.	Letter of Intent (LoI) between the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and National Institute for Health and Care Research (NIHR), UK	**United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland**	03.10.2025	Indian Council of Medical Research, Department of Health, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
248.	Voluntary Financial Contribution Agreement between the United Nations and the Government of the Republic of India of 26 February, 2025	**United Nations**	26.02.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
249.	Memorandum of Understanding between Ministry of Home Affairs, Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) and the Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Homeland Security Investigations Cyber Crimes Center (C3)	**United States**	17.01.2025	Ministry of Home Affairs
250.	Memorandum of Understanding between the U.S. National Science Foundation and the Anusandhan National Research Foundation of the Republic of India concerning Research Cooperation on Critical and Emerging Technologies	**United States**	12.02.2025	Anusandhan National Research Foundation
251.	Implementing arrangement between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration of the United States of America and the Indian Space Research Organisation of the Republic of India for cooperation on the International Space Station	**USA**	02.05.2025	Indian Space Research Organisation
252.	Addendum to the Memorandum Of Understanding Made and Entered into By and Between Indian Council for Cultural Relations and University of Houston on the Establishment of the ICCR Chair of Indian Studies	**USA**	04.03.2025	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
253.	Power Grid Corporation of India with POWER Engineers Inc, USA	**USA**	25.03.2025	Ministry of Power
254.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Youth Affairs Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports of the Government of the Republic of India on Cooperation In Youth Matters And Bilateral Youth Exchange Programs	**Uzbekistan**	14.02.2025	Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports
255.	Program of Cooperation between the Ministry of External Affairs of The Republic of India and The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of The Republic of Uzbekistan for 2025-2026	**Uzbekistan**	05.06.2025	Ministry of External Affairs
256.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology of the Republic of India and the Ministry of People's Power for Science and Technology of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela on cooperation in the field of sharing successful digital solutions implemented at population scale for digital Transformation	**Venezuela**	12.02.2025	Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
257.	MOU to establish Joint Commission at Vice Minster/ Secretary Level	**Venezuela**	06.02.2025	Ministry of External Affairs

Sl. No	Agreement/Memorandum of Understandings/ Treaties	Country/ Intergovernmental Organisations	Date of signing	Ministry
258.	Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Zambia on the Promotion of Cooperatives	**Zambia**	18.07.2025	Ministry of Cooperation
259.	Memorandum of Understanding Between the Government of the Republic of India and the Government of the Republic of Zimbabwe on Co-operation in the Field of Defence	**Zimbabwe**	12.02.2025	Ministry of Defence
260.	Strasbourg agreement Concerning the International Patent Classification	**NA**	05.05.2025	DPIIT

ANNEXURE V

Passport Offices (State / UT-wise)

Sl. No.	Passport Office	State / Union Territory
1	PO Ahmedabad	Gujarat
2	PO Amritsar	Punjab
3	PO Bareilly	Uttar Pradesh
4	PO Bengaluru	Karnataka
5	PO Bhopal	Madhya Pradesh
6	PO Bhubaneswar	Odisha
7	PO Chandigarh	Chandigarh
8	PO Chennai	Tamil Nadu
9	PO Cochin	Kerala
10	PO Coimbatore	Tamil Nadu
11	PO Dehradun	Uttarakhand
12	PO Delhi	Delhi
13	PO Ghaziabad	Uttar Pradesh
14	PO Goa	Goa
15	PO Guwahati	Assam
16	PO Hyderabad	Telangana
17	PO Jaipur	Rajasthan
18	PO Jalandhar	Punjab
19	PO Jammu	Jammu and Kashmir
20.	PO Kolkata	West Bengal
21	PO Kozhikode	Kerala
22	PO Lucknow	Uttar Pradesh
23	PO Madurai	Tamil Nadu
24	PO Mumbai	Maharashtra
25	PO Nagpur	Maharashtra
26	PO Patna	Bihar
27	PO Pune	Maharashtra
28	PO Raipur	Chhattisgarh

Sl. No.	Passport Office	State / Union Territory
29	PO Ranchi	Jharkhand
30	PO Shimla	Himachal Pradesh
31	PO Srinagar	Jammu and Kashmir
32	PO Surat	Gujarat
33	PO Tiruchirappalli	Tamil Nadu
34	PO Trivandrum	Kerala
35	PO Vijayawada	Andhra Pradesh
36	PO Visakhapatnam	Andhra Pradesh
37	PO Kota	Rajasthan

ANNEXURE VI

List of Passport Seva Kendras (RPO-wise)

Sl. No.	RPO Name	S. No. of PSKs	Name of Passport Seva Kendra (PSK)
1	**RPO Ahmedabad**	1	PSK Mithakali Ahmedabad
		2	PSK Rajkot
		3	PSK Vadodara
		4	PSK Vijay Cross Road Ahmedabad
2	**RPO Amritsar**	5	PSK Amritsar
3	**RPO Bareilly**	6	PSK Bareilly
4	**RPO Bengaluru**	7	PSK Bengaluru, Lalbagh
		8	PSK Bengaluru, Sai Arcade
		9	PSK Hubballi-Dharwad
		10	PSK Mangaluru
		11	PSLK Kalaburagi
5	**RPO Bhopal**	12	PSK Bhopal
		13	PSLK Indore
6	**RPO Bhubaneswar**	14	PSK Bhubaneswar
7	**RPO Chandigarh**	15	PSK Ambala
		16	PSK Chandigarh
		17	PSK Ludhiana
8	**RPO Chennai**	18	PSK Aminjikarai
		19	PSK Saligramam
		20	PSK Tambaram
		21	PSLK Puducherry
9	**RPO Cochin**	22	PSK Alappuzha
		23	PSK Aluva
		24	PSK Kottayam
		25	PSK Thrissur
		26	PSK Tripunithura, Cochin
10	**RPO Coimbatore**	27	PSK Coimbatore
11	**RPO Dehradun**	28	PSK Dehradun

Sl. No.	RPO Name	S. No. of PSKs	Name of Passport Seva Kendra (PSK)
12	**RPO Delhi**	29	PSK R.K Puram
		30	PSK Gurgaon
		31	PSK Herald House - ITO
		32	PSK Shalimar Place
13	**RPO Ghaziabad**	33	PSK Ghaziabad
14	**RPO Guwahati**	34	PSK Guwahati
		35	PSLK Aizawl
		36	PSLK Dimapur
		37	PSLK Imphal
		38	PSLK Itanagar
		39	PSLK Shillong
15	**RPO Hyderabad**	40	PSK Ameerpet
		41	PSK Begumpet
		42	PSK Nizamabad
		43	PSK Toli Chowki
		44	PSLK Karimnagar
16	**RPO Jaipur**	45	PSK Jaipur
		46	PSK Jodhpur
		47	PSK Sikar
17	**RPO Jalandhar**	48	PSK Hoshiarpur
		49	PSK Jalandhar-1
		50	PSK Jalandhar-2
18	**RPO Jammu**	51	PSK Jammu
19	**RPO Kolkata**	52	PSK Berhampore
		53	PSK Kolkata
		54	PSLK Agartala
		55	PSLK Gangtok
		56	PSLK Siliguri
20	**RPO, Kota**	57	PSLK Udaipur

Sl. No.	RPO Name	S. No. of PSKs	Name of Passport Seva Kendra (PSK)
21	**RPO Kozhikode**	58	PSK Kannur
		59	PSK Kozhikode
		60	PSK Malappuram II
		61	PSK Payyanur, Kannur
		62	PSK Vadakara, Kozhikode
22	**RPO Lucknow**	63	PSK Gorakhpur
		64	PSK Kanpur
		65	PSK Lucknow
		66	PSK Varanasi
23	**RPO Madurai**	67	PSK Madurai
		68	PSK Tirunelveli City
		69	PSK Andheri
24	**RPO Mumbai**	70	PSK Lower Parel
		71	PSK Malad
		72	PSK Nashik
		73	PSK Thane
25	**RPO Nagpur**	74	PSK Nagpur
26	**RPO Panaji**	75	PSK Panaji
27	**RPO Patna**	76	Darbhanga
		77	PSK Patna
28	**RPO Pune**	78	PSK Pune
		79	PSLK Solapur
29	**RPO Raipur**	80	PSK Raipur
30	**RPO Ranchi**	81	PSK Ranchi
31	**RPO Shimla**	82	PSK Shimla
32	**RPO Srinagar**	83	PSK Srinagar
33	**RPO Surat**	84	PSK Surat
34	**RPO Tiruchirappalli**	85	PSK Thanjavur
		86	PSK Tiruchirappalli

Sl. No.	RPO Name	S. No. of PSKs	Name of Passport Seva Kendra (PSK)
35	**RPO Trivandrum**	87	PSK Kollam
		88	PSK Neyyattinkara, Trivandrum
		89	PSK Vazhuthacaud, Trivandrum
36	**RPO Vijayawada**	90	PSK Tirupathi
		91	PSK Vijaywada
37	**RPO Visakhapatnam**	92	PSK Visakhapatnam
		93	PSLK Bhimavaram

ANNEXURE VII

List of functional Post Office Passport Seva Kendras (POPSK)

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
1	Port Blair	Andaman & Nicobar Island	Kolkata
2	Kadappa	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
3	Kurnool	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
4	Nellore	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
5	Anantpur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
6	Chittoor	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
7	Machlipattnam (Gudivada)	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
8	Guntur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
9	Ongole	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
10	Bapatla	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
11	Narasaraopet	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
12	Nandyal	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
13	Rajampet (Kodur)	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
14	Hindupur	Andhra Pradesh	Vijayawada
15	Rajamundry	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
16	Kakinada	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
17	Srikakulam	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
18	Amalapuram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
19	Vizianagaram	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
20	Eluru	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
21	Anakapalle (Yelamanchili)	Andhra Pradesh	Vishakhapatnam
22	Aruanchal East (Khonsa)	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
23	Aruanchal East (Changlang)	Arunachal Pradesh	Guwahati
24	Silchar	Assam	Guwahati
25	Mangaldoi	Assam	Guwahati
26	Dibrugarh	Assam	Guwahati
27	Tezpur	Assam	Guwahati
28	Kokrajhar	Assam	Guwahati

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
29	Dibrugarh (Tinsukia)	Assam	Guwahati
30	Karbi Anglong	Assam	Guwahati
31	Dhubri	Assam	Guwahati
32	Dubri (Goalpara)	Assam	Guwahati
33	Lakhimpur (North Lakhimpur)	Assam	Guwahati
34	Nawgong	Assam	Guwahati
35	Barpeta	Assam	Guwahati
36	Jorhat	Assam	Guwahati
37	Kaliabor (Golaghat)	Assam	Guwahati
38	Karimganj	Assam	Guwahati
39	Muzaffarpur	Bihar	Patna
40	Purnea	Bihar	Patna
41	Bhagalpur	Bihar	Patna
42	Siwan	Bihar	Patna
43	Paschim Champaran (Bettiah)	Bihar	Patna
44	Gaya	Bihar	Patna
45	East Champaran (Motihari)	Bihar	Patna
46	Buxar	Bihar	Patna
47	Madhubani	Bihar	Patna
48	Saran (Chhapra)	Bihar	Patna
49	Samastipur	Bihar	Patna
50	Munger	Bihar	Patna
51	Navada	Bihar	Patna
52	Begusarai	Bihar	Patna
53	Nalanda	Bihar	Patna
54	Hajipur	Bihar	Patna
55	Arrah	Bihar	Patna
56	Jamui	Bihar	Patna
57	Madhepura(Saharsa)	Bihar	Patna
58	Sasaram	Bihar	Patna
59	Sitamarhi	Bihar	Patna

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
60	Araria(Forbesganj)	Bihar	Patna
61	Banka	Bihar	Patna
62	Jahanabad	Bihar	Patna
63	Pataliputra(Maner)	Bihar	Patna
64	Sheohar	Bihar	Patna
65	Ujiarpur(Dalsingh Sarai)	Bihar	Patna
66	Khagaria	Bihar	Patna
67	Katihar	Bihar	Patna
68	Karakat(Dalmia Nagar)	Bihar	Patna
69	Kishanganj	Bihar	Patna
70	Gopalganj	Bihar	Patna
71	Aurangabad	Bihar	Patna
72	Ekma	Bihar	Patna
73	Supaul	Bihar	Patna
74	Surguja	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
75	Rajnandgaon	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
76	Durg	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
77	Bilaspur	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
78	Janjgir-Champa	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
79	Raigarh	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
80	Korba	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
81	Kanker	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
82	Bastar	Chhattisgarh	Raipur
83	Dadar & Nagar Haveli (Silvasa)	Dadar & Nagar Haveli	Mumbai
84	Daman & Diu (Daman)	Daman	Mumbai
85	Yamuna Vihar	Delhi	Delhi
86	Janak Puri	Delhi	Delhi
87	East Delhi (Patparganj)	Delhi	Delhi
88	South Delhi (Nehru Place)	Delhi	Delhi
89	Saket (Mehrauli)	Delhi	Delhi
90	South Goa (Margao)	Goa	Panaji

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
91	Dahod	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
92	Banaskantha (Palanpur)	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
93	Kachchh (Bhuj)	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
94	Jamnagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
95	Bhavnagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
96	Anand	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
97	Kheda	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
98	Bharuch	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
99	Junagadh	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
100	Junagadh (Veraval)	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
101	Mehsana	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
102	Porbandar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
103	Amreli	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
104	Surendranagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
105	Sabarkantha	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
106	Patan	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
107	Gandhinagar	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
108	Chhota Udaipur	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
109	Panchmahal(Godhra)	Gujarat	Ahmedabad
110	Navsari	Gujarat	Surat
111	Valsad	Gujarat	Surat
112	Bardoli	Gujarat	Surat
113	Rajpipla	Gujarat	Surat
114	Karnal	Haryana	Chandigarh
115	Hisar	Haryana	Chandigarh
116	Karnal (Panipat)	Haryana	Chandigarh
117	Ambala (Yamunanagar)	Haryana	Chandigarh
118	Kaithal	Haryana	Chandigarh
119	Bhiwani Mahendragarh	Haryana	Chandigarh
120	Sirsa	Haryana	Chandigarh
121	Faridabad	Haryana	Delhi

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
122	Bhiwani Mahendragarh (Narnaul)	Haryana	Delhi
123	Rohtak	Haryana	Delhi
124	Sonipat	Haryana	Delhi
125	Kangra (Palampur)	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
126	Hamirpur	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
127	Mandi	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
128	Mandi (Kullu)	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
129	Kangra	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
130	Hamirpur (Una)	Himachal Pradesh	Shimla
131	Udhampur	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
132	Udhampur (Kathua)	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
133	Jammu (Rajouri)	Jammu & Kashmir	Jammu
134	Ladakh (Leh)	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
135	Anantnag	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
136	Baramulla	Jammu & Kashmir	Srinagar
137	Jamshedpur	Jharkhand	Ranchi
138	Godda (Deoghar)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
139	Dhanbad (Bokaro)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
140	Dhanbad	Jharkhand	Ranchi
141	Dumka	Jharkhand	Ranchi
142	Hazaribagh	Jharkhand	Ranchi
143	Palamu (Medininagar)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
144	Giridih	Jharkhand	Ranchi
145	Lohardaga (Gumla)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
146	Kodarma(Jumri Tilaiya)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
147	Chatra(Shimaria)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
148	Khunti	Jharkhand	Ranchi
149	Rajmahal(Sahibganj)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
150	Singhbhum(Chaibasha)	Jharkhand	Ranchi
151	Godda	Jharkhand	Ranchi
152	Mysuru	Karnataka	Bengaluru

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
153	Belagavi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
154	Davangere	Karnataka	Bengaluru
155	Shivamogga	Karnataka	Bengaluru
156	Bellary	Karnataka	Bengaluru
157	Tumakuru	Karnataka	Bengaluru
158	Hassan	Karnataka	Bengaluru
159	Haveri (Gadag)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
160	Vijayapur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
161	Chikmagalur (Udupi)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
162	Bidar	Karnataka	Bengaluru
163	Raichur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
164	Koppal	Karnataka	Bengaluru
165	Kolar(Robertsonpet)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
166	Uttar Kannada(Ankola)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
167	Chitradurga	Karnataka	Bengaluru
168	Chamrajanagar	Karnataka	Bengaluru
169	Chikkodi	Karnataka	Bengaluru
170	Chikkballapur	Karnataka	Bengaluru
171	Bangalore Rural (Channapatna)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
172	Bangalore North (Jalahalli)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
173	Mandya (Maddur)	Karnataka	Bengaluru
174	Bagalkot	Karnataka	Bengaluru
175	Mavalikkara (Chengannur)	Kerala	Cochin
176	Idukki (Kattappana)	Kerala	Cochin
177	Palakkad	Kerala	Cochin
178	Nenmara	Kerala	Cochin
179	Kasargod	Kerala	Kozhikode
180	Pathanamthitta	Kerala	Trivandrum
181	Attingal	Kerala	Trivandrum
182	Lakshadweep (Kavaratti)	Lakshadweep	Cochin
183	Vidisha	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
184	Satna	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
185	Jabalpur	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
186	Gwalior	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
187	Dewas	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
188	Balaghat	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
189	Chhindwara	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
190	Damoh	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
191	Ratlam	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
192	Hoshangabad	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
193	Sagar	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
194	Betul	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
195	Dhar	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
196	Khajuraho (Chhatarpur)	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
197	Tikamgarh	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
198	Rewa	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
199	Ujjain	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
200	Seoni	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
201	Guna	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
202	Mandsaur	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
203	shahdol	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
204	Khandwa	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
205	Alibaug	Maharashra	Mumbai
206	Aurangabad	Maharashtra	Mumbai
207	Mumbai NE (Vikroli)	Maharashtra	Mumbai
208	Jalgaon	Maharashtra	Mumbai
209	Ratnagiri Sindhugurh (Rajapur)	Maharashtra	Mumbai
210	Raver(Bhusawal)	Maharashtra	Mumbai
211	Dhule	Maharashtra	Mumbai
212	Mumbai South-Central (Sion)	Maharashtra	Mumbai
213	Santa Cruz	Maharashtra	Mumbai
214	Bhiwandi	Maharashtra	Mumbai

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
215	Dombivli	Maharashtra	Mumbai
216	Vasai	Maharashtra	Mumbai
217	Nandurbar	Maharashtra	Mumbai
218	Wardha	Maharashtra	Nagpur
219	Chandrapur	Maharashtra	Nagpur
220	Amravati	Maharashtra	Nagpur
221	Akola	Maharashtra	Nagpur
222	Buldhana	Maharashtra	Nagpur
223	Yavatmal-Washim (Yavatmal)	Maharashtra	Nagpur
224	Hingoli	Maharashtra	Nagpur
225	Gadchiroli Chimur (Gadchiroli)	Maharashtra	Nagpur
226	Bhandara Gondiya (Bhandara)	Maharashtra	Nagpur
227	Ramtek(Katoal)	Maharashtra	Nagpur
228	Kolhapur	Maharashtra	Pune
229	Maval (Pimpri Chinchwad)	Maharashtra	Pune
230	Sangli	Maharashtra	Pune
231	Jalna	Maharashtra	Pune
232	Beed	Maharashtra	Pune
233	Ahmednagar	Maharashtra	Pune
234	Nanded	Maharashtra	Pune
235	Satara	Maharashtra	Pune
236	Solapur (Pandharpur)	Maharashtra	Pune
237	Baramati	Maharashtra	Pune
238	Latur	Maharashtra	Pune
239	Parbhani	Maharashtra	Pune
240	Shirdi(Srirampur)	Maharashtra	Pune
241	Shirur	Maharashtra	Pune
242	Osmanabad	Maharashtra	Pune
243	Madha	Maharashtra	Pune
244	Hatkanangle (Ichalkaranji)	Maharashtra	Pune
245	Navi Mumbai (Vashi)	Maharastra	Mumbai

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
246	Outer Manipur(Kakching)	Manipur	Guwahati
247	Tura	Meghalaya	Guwahati
248	Sundergarh (Rourkela)	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
249	Sambalpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
250	Koraput	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
251	Balasore	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
252	Berhampur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
253	Mayurbhanj (Baripada)	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
254	Kalahandi (Bhawanipatna)	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
255	Aska	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
256	Bhadrak	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
257	Cuttack	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
258	Dhenkanal	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
259	Jajpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
260	Keonjhar	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
261	Kandhamal (Phulbani)	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
262	Kendrapara	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
263	Bargarh	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
264	Bolangir	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
265	Jagatsinghpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
266	Puri	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
267	Nabarangpur	Odisha	Bhubaneswar
268	Puducherry (Karaikal)	Puducherry	Tiruchirapalli
269	Firozpur	Punjab	Amritsar
270	Bathinda	Punjab	Chandigarh
271	Patiala	Punjab	Chandigarh
272	SBS Nagar(Ropar)	Punjab	Chandigarh
273	Fatehgarh Sahib(Basi Pattana)	Punjab	Chandigarh
274	Sangrur(Malerkotla)	Punjab	Chandigarh
275	Faridkot (Moga)	Punjab	Jalandhar
276	Hoshiarpur (Phagwara)	Punjab	Jalandhar

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
277	Gurdaspur (Pathankot)	Punjab	Jalandhar
278	Kota	Rajasthan	Jaipur
279	Bikaner	Rajasthan	Jaipur
280	Jhunjhunu	Rajasthan	Jaipur
281	Barmer (Jaisalmer)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
282	Jhalawar Baran (Jhalawar)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
283	Nagaur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
284	Pali	Rajasthan	Jaipur
285	Churu	Rajasthan	Jaipur
286	Ganganagar (Hanumangarh)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
287	Sriganganagar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
288	Alwar	Rajasthan	Jaipur
289	Chittorgarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
290	Barmer	Rajasthan	Jaipur
291	Ajmer	Rajasthan	Jaipur
292	Karauli (Dhaulpur)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
293	Banswara	Rajasthan	Jaipur
294	Bharatpur	Rajasthan	Jaipur
295	Jaipur Rural (Kotputli)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
296	Dausa	Rajasthan	Jaipur
297	Tonk-Sawai Madhopur (Sawai Madhopur)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
298	Bhilwara	Rajasthan	Jaipur
299	Rajsamand(Kankroli)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
300	Jalore(Sirohi)	Rajasthan	Jaipur
301	Pratapgarh	Rajasthan	Jaipur
302	Vellore	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
303	Cuddalore	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
304	Viluppuram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
305	Tiruvannamalai	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
306	Arani	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
307	Arakkonam(Ranipet)	Tamil Nadu	Chennai

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
308	Cheenai North (Chennai GPO)	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
309	Dharmapuri	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
310	Kallakurichi	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
311	Kancheepuram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
312	Tiruvallur	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
313	Chidambaram	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
314	Krishnagiri	Tamil Nadu	Chennai
315	Salem	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
316	Nilgiris (Coonoor)	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
317	Erode	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
318	Namakkal (Rasipuram)	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
319	Virudhunagar	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
320	Kanyakumari (Nagercoil)	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
321	Shivaganga (Devakottai)	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
322	Dindigul(Kodairoad)	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
323	Tenkasi(Rajpalyam)	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
324	Theni(Bodineyaknur)	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
325	Thoothukkudi	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
326	Ramanathapuram	Tamil Nadu	Madurai
327	Perambalur	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirapalli
328	Mayiladuthurai(Sirkali)	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
329	Nagapattinam (Thiruthuraipoondi)	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
330	Karur	Tamil Nadu	Tiruchirappalli
331	Mehbubnagar	Telangana	Hyderabad
332	Warangal	Telangana	Hyderabad
333	Khammam	Telangana	Hyderabad
334	Medak (Siddipet)	Telangana	Hyderabad
335	Adilabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
336	Nalgonda	Telangana	Hyderabad
337	Medak	Telangana	Hyderabad
338	Bhongir	Telangana	Hyderabad

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
339	Mahabubabad	Telangana	Hyderabad
340	Zahirabad(Kamareddy)	Telangana	Hyderabad
341	Peddapalle(Mancherial)	Telangana	Hyderabad
342	Nagarkurnool(Wanaparthy)	Telangana	Hyderabad
343	Malkajgiri (Medchal)	Telangana	Hyderabad
344	Chevella(Vikarabad)	Telangana	Hyderabad
345	Dharamnagar	Tripura	Kolkata
346	Pilibhit	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
347	Moradabad	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
348	Bijnaur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
349	Rampur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
350	Badaun	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
351	Amroha	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
352	Shahjahanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
353	Nagina	Uttar Pradesh	Bareilly
354	Meerut	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
355	Agra	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
356	Mathura (Vrindawan)	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
357	Bulandshahr	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
358	Aligarh	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
359	Saharanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
360	Fatehpur Sikri(Achnera)	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
361	Hathras	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
362	Muzaffarnagar	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
363	Gautam Buddha Nagar(Noida)	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
364	Baghpat	Uttar Pradesh	Ghaziabad
365	Jhansi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
366	Ghazipur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
367	Faizabad (Ayodhya)	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
368	Allahabad	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
369	Deoria	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
370	Unnao	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
371	Ballia	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
372	Sultanpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
373	Pratapgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
374	Azamgarh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
375	Bahraich	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
376	Sitapur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
377	Gonda	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
378	Shrawasti (Balrampur)	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
379	Goshi (Mau)	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
380	Amethi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
381	Rae Bareli	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
382	Jaunpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
383	Mirzapur (Chunar)	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
384	Fatehpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
385	Banda	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
386	Hamirpur	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
387	Bhadohi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
388	Domariyaganj (Siddharth Nagar)	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
389	Misrikh	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
390	Ambedkar Nagar	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
391	Maharajganj	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
392	Kheri	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
393	Hardoi	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
394	Farukhabad	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
395	Etawah	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
396	Jalaun	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
397	Almora	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
398	Naintal (Rudrapur)	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
399	Nainital (Kathgodam)	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
400	Nainital	Uttarakhand	Dehradun

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
401	Haridwar (Roorkee)	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
402	Garhwal (Srinagar)	Uttarakhand	Dehradun
403	Asansol	West Bengal	Kolkata
404	Raiganj (North Dinajpur)	West Bengal	Kolkata
405	Kolkata Uttar (Beadon Street)	West Bengal	Kolkata
406	Nadia (Krishnanagar)	West Bengal	Kolkata
407	Malda Dakshin (Makdumpur)	West Bengal	Kolkata
408	Bardhaman	West Bengal	Kolkata
409	Barrackpore	West Bengal	Kolkata
410	Hoogly (Chinsurah)	West Bengal	Kolkata
411	Balurghat	West Bengal	Kolkata
412	Medinipur (Kharagpur)	West Bengal	Kolkata
413	Diamond Harbour	West Bengal	Kolkata
414	Birbhum (Rampurhat)	West Bengal	Kolkata
415	Jalpaiguri	West Bengal	Kolkata
416	Coochbehar	West Bengal	Kolkata
417	Alipurduar	West Bengal	Kolkata
418	Arambagh	West Bengal	Kolkata
419	Serampore	West Bengal	Kolkata
420	Jadavpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
421	Dum Dum	West Bengal	Kolkata
422	Bangaon	West Bengal	Kolkata
423	Tamluk	West Bengal	Kolkata
424	Kanthi	West Bengal	Kolkata
425	Howrah	West Bengal	Kolkata
426	Barasat (Ashok Nagar)	West Bengal	Kolkata
427	Ranaghat	West Bengal	Kolkata
428	Darjeeling	West Bengal	Kolkata
429	Bankura	West Bengal	Kolkata
430	Bardhaman Purba(Katwa)	West Bengal	Kolkata
431	Basirhat	West Bengal	Kolkata

Sl. No.	Locations of POPSK	State/UT	Passport Office
432	Bolpur	West Bengal	Kolkata
433	Uluberia(Amta)	West Bengal	Kolkata
434	Bishnupur	West Bengal	Kolkata
435	Jangipur (Raghunathganj)	West Bengal	Kolkata
436	Purulia	West Bengal	Kolkata
437	Jhargram	West Bengal	Kolkata
438	Ghatal	West Bengal	Kolkata
439	Maldaha Uttar(Samsi)	West Bengal	Kolkata
440	Mathurapur(Kakdweep)	West Bengal	Kolkata
441	Jaynagar (Canning Ferri Ghat)	West Bengal	Kolkata
442	Murshidabad(Jiyaganj)	West Bengal	Kolkata
443	Araku	Andhra Pradesh	Visakhapatnam
444	Rajnagar	Bihar	Patna
445	Tiruppur	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore
446	Bakhra	Bihar	Patna
447	Kalpetta	Kerala	Kozhikode
448	Khargone	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
449	Bhind	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
450	Kushinagar	Uttar Pradesh	Lucknow
451	Mandala	Madhya Pradesh	Bhopal
452	Pollachi	Tamil Nadu	Coimbatore

ANNEXURE VIII

Data on Indian Diaspora Abroad in 2025

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
1	Afghanistan	158	0	158
2	Albania	7	450	457
3	Algeria	27	4024	4051
4	Andorra	200	50	250
5	Angola	59	71	130
6	Antigua & Barbuda	200	300	500
7	Argentina	1800	800	2600
8	Armenia	19	5430	5449
9	Aruba	400	600	1000
10	Australia	626000	350000	976000
11	Austria	18500	14400	32900
12	Azerbaijan	83	672	755
13	Bahamas	20	280	300
14	Bahrain	4506	342350	346856
15	Bangladesh	10	7000	7010
16	Barbados	2500	600	3100
17	Belarus	150	1266	1416
18	Belgium	13204	23343	36547
19	Belize	1300	200	1500
20	Benin	4	996	1000
21	Bhutan	0	60000	60,000
22	Bolivia	15	47	62
23	Bonaire & Smaller Islands	12	54	66
24	Bosnia and Herzegovina	7	20	27
25	Botswana	3000	9500	12500
26	Brazil	863	2460	3323
27	British Virgin Islands	20	80	100
28	Brunei Darussalam	240	14500	14740

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
29	Bulgaria	1077	949	2026
30	Burkina Faso	350	150	500
31	Burundi	35	700	735
32	Cambodia	100	4400	4500
33	Cameroon	0	1500	1500
34	Canada	1859680	1751610	3611290
35	Cape Verde	1	39	40
36	Cayman Islands	100	900	1000
37	Central African Republic	0	70	70
38	Chad	0	250	250
39	Chile	2100	2000	4100
40	China	59787	43683	103470
41	Colombia	252	758	1010
42	Commonwealth of Dominica	500	40	540
43	Comoros	200	20	220
44	Democratic Republic of Congo	5000	30000	35000
45	Republic of Congo	0	875	875
46	Cook Islands	5	0	5
47	Costa Rica	39	1011	1050
48	Côte d'Ivoire	44	6532	6576
49	Croatia	82	17139	17221
50	Cuba	0	0	0
51	Curacao	800	700	1500
52	Cyprus	398	11119	11517
53	Czech Republic	600	10124	10724
54	Denmark	3499	18958	22457
55	Djibouti	8	1000	1008
56	Dominica Republic	2	75	77
57	Ecuador	82	269	351
58	Egypt	366	5134	5500

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
59	El Salvador	1	20	21
60	Equatorial Guinea	0	400	400
61	Eritrea	0	140	140
62	Estonia	40	1928	1968
63	Eswatini	0	3184	3184
64	Ethiopia	105	5900	6,005
65	Fiji	313818	2290	316108
66	Finland	15989	13068	29057
67	France	90000	29000	119000
68	France (Reunion Island)	300000	159	300159
69	France (Guadeloupe)	57000	180	57180
70	France (Martinique)	8000	90	8090
71	France (St. Martin)	1800	150	1950
72	Gabon	10	800	810
73	Gambia	20	2100	2120
74	Georgia	5	250	255
75	Germany	176500	273890	450390
76	Ghana	321	15000	15321
77	Greece	158	11333	11491
78	Grenada	4511	189	4700
79	Guatemala	16	126	142
80	Republic of Guinea	51	1390	1441
81	Guinea-Bissau	0	300	300
82	Guyana	320000	2700	322700
83	Haiti	0	36	36
84	Holy See	30	15	45
85	Honduras	277	8457	8734
86	Hungary	2200	6800	9000
87	Iceland	237	509	746
88	Indonesia	120000	14817	134817

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
89	Iran	445	10320	10765
90	Iraq	0	17100	17100
91	Ireland	37,812	45,000	82,812
92	Israel	85,000	38,000	123,000
93	Italy	Data not available	170880	170880
94	Jamaica	70000	5000	75000
95	Japan	1597	51345	52942
96	Jordan	153	16897	17050
97	Kazakhstan	423	1095	1518
98	Kenya	60,000	20,000	80,000
99	Kirbati	50	2	52
100	Korea (DPR)	1	15	16
101	Korea (ROK)	444	16816	17260
102	Kuwait	2,356	10,07,961	10,10,317
103	Kyrgyzstan	61	200	261
104	Laos	119	600	719
105	Latvia	Data not available	4766	4766
106	Lebanon	41	2000	2041
107	Lesotho (Kingdom of)	1500	1500	3000
108	Liberia	2	3000	3002
109	Libya	0	3000	3000
110	Liechtenstein	0	35	35
111	Lithuania	Data not available	7227	7227
112	Luxembourg	813	4508	5321
113	Madagascar	15000	2500	17500
114	Malawi	6000	9000	15000
115	Malaysia	2750000	185000	2935000
116	Maldives	140	30000	30140
117	Mali	13	600	613
118	Malta	250	18000	18250

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
119	Marshall Island	2	7	9
120	Mauritania	0	150	150
121	Mauritius	871140	26357	897497
122	Micronesia	0	35	35
123	Mexico	1500	6500	8000
124	Moldova	9	950	959
125	Monaco	43	10	53
126	Mongolia	11	92	103
127	Montserrat	200	15	215
128	Morocco	116	438	554
129	Mozambique	22000	3000	25000
130	Myanmar	23	354	377
131	Namibia	50	450	500
132	Nauru	0	20	20
133	Nepal	0	700000	700000
134	Netherlands	178000	55613	233613
135	New Zealand	143000	157000	300000
136	Nicaragua	1	39	40
137	Niger	240	10	250
138	Nigeria	8	150	158
139	North Macedonia	52	43	95
140	Norway	12436	11593	24029
141	Oman	1754	660299	662053
142	Pakistan	0	0	0
143	Palau	0	29	29
144	Palestine	0	7	7
145	Panama	11000	4000	15000
146	Papua New Guinea	74	4000	4074
147	Paraguay	200	400	600
148	Peru	154	346	500

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
149	Philippines	2570	67430	70000
150	Poland	1300	30000	31300
151	Portugal	13682	90000	103682
152	Qatar	Data not available	8,30,491	8,30,491
153	Romania	362	10797	11159
154	Russia	2742	70000	72742
155	Rwanda	5	3000	3005
156	Saint Kitts & Nevis	100	500	600
157	Saint Lusia	18600	550	19150
158	Saint Vincent & Grenadines	6600	50	6650
159	Samoa	50	0	50
160	San Marino	0	0	0
161	Sao Tome	0	32	32
162	Saudi Arabia	0	2747551	2747551
163	Senegal	5	35	40
164	Serbia	20	10000	10020
165	Seychelles	5093	8245	13338
166	Sierra Leone	30	4500	4530
167	Singapore	107180	350000	457180
168	Sint Maarten	3000	2170	5170
169	Slovak Republic	60	5940	6000
170	Slovenia	86	822	908
171	Solomon Islands	0	20	20
172	Somolia	0	100	100
173	South Africa	1318431	74057	1392488
174	South Sudan	0	980	980
175	Spain	16635	51606	68241
176	Sri Lanka	1600000	7500	1607500
177	Sudan	55	85	140
178	Suriname	187700	1350	189050

S.No.	Country/Territory	PIOs	NRIs	Total Overseas Indians
179	Sweden	93180	22680	115860
180	Switzerland	9400	19,200	28,600
181	Syria	0	39	39
182	Taiwan	408	4641	5049
183	Tajikistan	0	400	400
184	Tanzania	40,000	15,000	55,000
185	Thailand	135179	30236	165415
186	Timor Leste	Data not available	Data not available	Data not available
187	Togo	10	1300	1310
188	Tonga	50	5	55
189	Trinidad & Tobago	548286	1259	549545
190	Tunisia	9	80	89
191	Turkiye	386	3635	4021
192	Turkmenistan	4	105	109
193	Turks & Caicos Islands	50	200	250
194	Tuvalu	20	0	20
195	Uganda	9000	30000	39000
196	Ukraine	739	1952	2691
197	UAE	6614	38,90,953	3897567
198	U.K.	970969	369000	1339969
199	U.S.A.	3775194	1918415	5693609
200	Uruguay	50	950	1000
201	Uzbekistan	61	16080	16141
202	Vanuatu	15	0	15
203	Venezuela	21	38	59
204	Vietnam	817	7200	8017
205	Yemen	420	700	1120
206	Zambia	5000	25000	30000
207	Zimbabwe	9000	1000	10000
Total		**17181071**	**17175122**	**34356193**

ANNEXURE IX

Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award 2025: List of Awardees

Sr. No.	Name	Country	Field
1.	Prof. Ajay Rane	Australia	Community Service
2.	Dr. Marialena Joan Fernandes	Austria	Education
3.	Dr. The Honourable Philomena Ann Mohini Harris	Barbados	Medical Science
4.	Swami Sanyuktanand	Fiji	Community Service
5.	Saraswati Vidya Niketan	Guyana	Community Service
6.	Dr. Lekh Raj Juneja	Japan	Science & Technology
7.	Dr. Prem Kumar	KYRGYZ Republic	Medical Science
8.	Mr. Soukthavy Chowdhury	Laos	Business
9.	Mr. Krishna Savjani	Malawi	Business
10.	Tan Sri Subramaniam K.V. Sathasivam	Malaysia	Politics
11.	Dr. Mrs Sarita Boodhoo	Mauritius	Community Service
12.	Mr. Abhaya Kumar	Moldova	Business
13.	Dr. Ram Niwas @ Hla Tun	Myanmar	Education
14.	Mr. Jaggannath Shekhar Asthana	Romania	Business
15.	Hindustani Samaj	Russia	Community Service
16.	Ms. Sudha Rani Gupta	Russia	Education
17.	Dr. Syed Anwar Khursheed	Saudi Arabia	Medical Science
18.	Mr. Atul Arvind Temurnikar	Singapore	Education
19.	Mr. Robert Masih Nahar	Spain	Community Service
20.	Dr. Kaushik Laxmidas Ramaiya	Tanzania	Medicine
21.	H.E. Christine Carla Kangaloo ORTT	Trinidad & Tobago	Public Affairs
22.	Mr. Ramakrishnan Sivaswamy Iyer	UAE	Business
23.	Mr. Bonthala Subbaiah Setty Ramesh Babu	Uganda	Community Service
24.	Baroness. Usha Kumari Prashar	UK	Politics
25.	Mr. Ravi Kumar S.	USA	Business (IT & Consulting)
26.	Dr. Sharad Lakhanpal	USA	Medicine
27.	Dr. Sharmila Ford	USA	Community Service

ANNEXURE X

Incoming Visits-2025

Sl. No.	Visit	Date
1	Visit of Abdulla Khaleel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives	2–4 January 2025
2	18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	8–10 January 2025
3	State visit of Tharman Shanmugaratnam, President of the Republic of Singapore	14–18 January 2025
4	State visit of Prabowo Subianto, President of the Republic of Indonesia	23–26 January 2025
5	Visit of Heads of Mission to Prayagraj	1 February 2025
6	Visit of His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, King of Bhutan	3–4 February 2025
7	Visit of Nurlan Yermekbayev, Secretary General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation	4–7 February 2025
8	Visit of Philémon Yang, former President of the United Nations General Assembly	4–8 February 2025
9	Visit of George Gerapetritis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Hellenic Republic (Greece)	5–8 February 2025
10	Visit of Dominique Hasler, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Education and Sports of Liechtenstein	10–11 February 2025
11	Visit of Delcy Rodríguez, former Vice-President of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	10–12 February 2025
12	State visit of Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar	17–18 February 2025
13	Visit of Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan	20–22 February 2025
14	Visit of Arya Ali, First Lady of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana	20–27 February 2025
15	Visit of Heads of Mission to Varanasi, Kaziranga and Guwahati	23–25 February 2025
16	Visit of Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission	27–28 February 2025
17	Visit of the Belgian Economic Mission led by Princess Astrid of Belgium	28 February–08 March 2025
18	Visit of Mark Phillips, Prime Minister of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana	4–7 March 2025
19	Visit of Md. Golam Sarwar, Secretary General SAARC	5–8 March 2025
20	Visit of Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Armenia	9–11 March 2025
21	Visit of E.P. Chet Greene, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Barbuda Affairs of Antigua and Barbuda	16–22 March 2025
22	Official visit of Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister of New Zealand	16–20 March 2025
23	Raisina Dialogue – Foreign Ministers (Nepal, Cuba, Ghana, Maldives, Peru, Slovenia, Luxembourg, Slovak Republic, Philippines, Antigua and Barbuda, Latvia, Maldives, Moldova, Ukraine, Georgia, Sweden, Thailand, Liechtenstein, Bhutan, Hungary, Norway, Director General IAEA)	17–19 March 2025

Sl. No.	Visit	Date
24	Visit of Celinda Sosa Lunda, Minister of External Affairs of Bolivia	18–21 March 2025
25	Visit of Shirley Botchway, Secretary-General Elect of the Commonwealth	19–21 March 2025
26	Visit of Caspar Veldkamp, former Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands	31 March–01 April 2025
27	State visit of Gabriel Boric Font, President of the Republic of Chile	1–5 April 2025
28	Visit of Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defence, UAE	8–9 April 2025
29	Visit of Antonio Tajani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Italy	11–12 April 2025
30	Official visit of James David Vance, Vice-President of the United States of America	21–24 April 2025
31	State visit of João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of Angola, and First Lady Ana Afonso Dias Lourenço	2–4 May 2025
32	Visit of Seyyed Abbas Araghchi, Foreign Minister of the Islamic Republic of Iran	7–8 May 2025
33	Visit of Eduardo Reina Garcia, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of Honduras	15–18 May 2025
34	Visit of Abdulla Khaleel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Maldives	25–27 May 2025
35	Visit of Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of New Zealand	29–30 May 2025
36	State visit of Santiago Peña, President of the Republic of Paraguay	2–4 June 2025
37	India–Central Asia Foreign Ministers Dialogue (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan)	5–6 June 2025
38	Visit of David Lammy, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom	7–8 June 2025
39	Private visit of Petr Pavel, President of the Czech Republic, to India (Leh, Ladakh)	26–27 July 2025
40	State visit of Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., President of the Philippines, with First Lady Louise Araneta-Marcos	4–8 August 2025
41	Visit of Mohammad Noor Ahmad Noor, then Director General, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Afghanistan	10–17 August 2025
42	Visit of Gan Kim Yong, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry of Singapore, and Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Singapore	12–14 August 2025
43	Visit of Cho Hyun, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Korea	15–17 August 2025
44	Visit of Wang Yi, Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China	18–20 August 2025
45	Visit of Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, Prime Minister of Fiji, with spouse Sulueti Rabuka	24–27 August 2025
46	Visit of Johann David Wadephul, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany	2–3 September 2025

Sl. No.	Visit	Date
47	Official visit of Lawrence Wong, Prime Minister of Singapore, with spouse	2–4 September 2025
48	Official visit of Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan, with spouse Aum Tashi Doma	3–6 September 2025
49	Official visit of His Holiness the Je Khenpo (equivalent to Head of State) of Bhutan	3–10 September 2025
50	State visit of Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius, with spouse Veena Ramgoolam	9–16 September 2025
51	Visit of Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom, to Mumbai	8-9 October 2025
52	Official visit of Mawlawi Amir Khan Muttaqi, acting Foreign Minister of Afghanistan	9-15 October 2025
53	Visit of Anita Anand, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada	12-14 October 2025
54	State visit of Khurelsukh Ukhnaa, President of Mongolia	13-16 October 2025
55	Visit of Geraldo Alckmin, Vice-President and Minister of Development, Industry, Trade and Services of the Federative Republic of Brazil, accompanied by his spouse Maria Lucia Alckmin	15-17 October 2025
56	Visit of Badr Abdelatty, Minister of Foreign Affairs, Emigration and Expatriates of The Arab Republic of Egypt	16-17October 2025
57	Visit of Harini Amarasuriya, Prime Minister of the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka	16-18 October 2025
58	Official visit of Constantinos Kombos, Foreign Minister of the Republic of Cyprus	29-31 October 2025
59	Visit of Abdullatif bin Rashid Alzayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Bahrain	2-3 November 2025
60	Visit of Gideon Sa'ar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel	3-5 November 2025
61	Visit of Penny Wong, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Australia	19-20 November 2025
62	Visit of Alhaj Nooruddin Azizi, Minister of Industry & Commerce of Afghanistan	19-24 November 2025
63	Visit of Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of Thailand	29 November-2 December 2025
64	Visit of Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation	4-5 December 2025
65	Visit of Antonio Tajani, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of the Republic of Italy	10-11 December 2025
66	Visit of David Van Weel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Kingdom of the Netherlands	17-19 December 2025

ANNEXURE XI

Outgoing Visits

Sl. No.	Country	Dates
Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji		
1	Portugal and Slovak Republic	6–11 April 2025
2	Italy and Vatican City	25–26 April 2025
3	Angola and Botswana	8-13 November 2025
Hon'ble Vice President		
1	Seychelles	26-28 October 2025
Prime Minister		
1	France and the USA	10–13 February 2025
2	Mauritius	11–12 March 2025
3	Thailand and Sri Lanka	3–6 April 2025
4	Saudi Arabia	22 April 2025
5	Cyprus, Canada, and Croatia	15–18 June 2025
6	Ghana, Trinidad and Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, Namibia	2–9 July 2025
7	United Kingdom and Maldives	23–26 July 2025
8	Japan and China	29 August–1 September 2025
9	Bhutan	11-12 November 2025
10	South Africa	21-23 November 2025
11	Jordan, Ethiopia & Oman	15-18 December 2025

ANNEXURE XII

Credential Presentation by Foreign Heads of Mission

Sl. No.	Country	Ambassador/High Commissioner	Date
1	Cambodia	Rath Many	17 February 2025
2	Maldives	Aishath Azeema	17 February 2025
3	Somalia	Abdullahi Mahmmed Odowa	17 February 2025
4	Cuba	Juan Carlos Marsan Aguilera	17 February 2025
5	Nepal	Shankar Prasad Sharma	17 February 2025
6	Panama	Alonso Correa Miguel	20 February 2025
7	Guyana	Dharam Kumar Seeraj	20 February 2025
8	Sudan	Mohammed Abdalla Ali Eltom	20 February 2025
9	Denmark	Rasmus Abildgaard Kristensen	20 February 2025
10	Palestine	Abdullah Mohammad A. Abushawesh	20 February 2025
11	Thailand	Chavanart Thangsumphant	29 May 2025
12	Costa Rica	Néstor Gabriel Baltodano Vargas	29 May 2025
13	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Gurdip Bath	29 May 2025
14	Türkiye	Ali Murat Ersoy	29 May 2025
15	Bangladesh	M. Riaz Hamidullah	29 May 2025
16	Kazakhstan	Azamat Yeskarayev	29 May 2025
17	Chad	Ildjima Badda Mallot	30 May 2025
18	Benin	Erick Jean Marie Zinsou	30 May 2025
19	Algeria	Abdenor Khelifi	30 May 2025
20	Niger	Zada Seidou	30 May 2025
21	Dominican Republic	Francisco Comprés Hernández	29 July 2025
22	Timor-Leste	Karlito Nunes	29 July 2025
23	Sri Lanka	Pradeepa Mahishini Colonne	29 July 2025
24	Gabon	Guy Rodrigue Dikayi	29 July 2025
25	Mauritania	Ahmedou Sidi Mohamed	3 October 2025
26	Luxembourg	Christian Biever	3 October 2025
27	Canada	Christopher Cooter	3 October 2025
28	Slovenia	Tomaz Mencin	3 October 2025

Sl. No.	Country	Ambassador/High Commissioner	Date
29	Lebanon	Hadi Jaber	25 November 2025
30	Mauritius	Sheilabai Bappoo, G.O.S.K.	25 November 2025
31	Senegal	Abdoulaye Barro	25 November 2025
32	Saudi Arabia	Haytham bin Hasan Al Malki	25 November 2025
33	Ghana	Kwasi Obiri-Danso	25 November 2025
34	Iran	Mohammad Fathali	15 December 2025
35	Brunei Darussalam	Siti Arnyfariza Haji Mohd Jaini	15 December 2025
36	Federated States of Micronesia** (at Tokyo)	John Fritz	15 December 2025

ANNEXURE XIII

Final Departure Status

Sl. No.	Mission	Head of Mission	Date of Departure
1	Thailand	Pattarat Hongtong	30 January 2025
2	Mauritius	Haymandoyal Dillum	6 February 2025
3	USA	Eric Michael Garcetti	7 February 2025
4	Algeria	Ali Achoui	16 February 2025
5	Dominican Republic	David Emmanuel Puig Buchel	18 February 2025
6	Trinidad and Tobago	Roger Gopaul	28 February 2025
7	Türkiye	Firat Sunel	30 March 2025
8	Kazakhstan	Nurlan Zhalgasbayev	19 April 2025
9	Slovenia	Mateja Vodeb Ghosh	6 August 2025
10	Luxembourg	Peggy Frantzen	11 August 2025
11	Namibia	Gabriel P. Sinimbo	16 August 2025
12	Moldova	Ana Taban	20 September 2025
13	Mexico	Federico Salas Lotfe	16 October 2025
14	Islamic Republic of Iran	Iraj Elahi	18 October 2025
15	Republic of Mozambique	Ermindo Augusto Ferreira	7 December 2025
16	North Macedonia	Slobodan Uzunov	21 December 2025

ANNEXURE XIV

Outgoing Visit

S. No.	Visit	Date
Hon'ble Rashtrapati ji		
1	Visit to Portugal and Slovakia	7-10 April 2025
2	Visit to Vatican City	25-26 April 2025
3	State Visit to Angola and Botswana	8-13 November 2025
Hon'ble Vice President		
1	Visit to Seychelles	26 -27 October 2025
Prime Minister		
1	Visit to France and the United States of America	10-13 February 2025
2	Visit to Mauritius	11-12 March 2025
3	Visit to Thailand and Sri Lanka	3-6 April 2025
4	Visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia	22-23 April 2025
5	Visit to the Republic of Cyprus, Canada, and Croatia	15-19 June 2025
6	Visit to Ghana, Trinidad & Tobago, Argentina, Brazil, and Namibia	2-9 July 2025
7	Visit to the United Kingdom and Maldives	23-26 July 2025
8	Visit to Japan and China	29 August- 1 September 2025
9	Visit to Bhutan	11-12 November 2025
10	Visit to South Africa	21-23 November 2025
11	Visit to Jordan, Ethiopia, and Oman	15-18 December 2025
EAM		
1	Visit to Spain	13-14 January 2025
2	Visit to UAE	27-29 January 2025
3	Visit to Johannesburg, South Africa	20-21 February 2025
4	Visit to the United Kingdom and Ireland	4-9 March 2025
5	Visit to the Netherlands, Denmark, and Germany	19-24 May 2025
6	Visit to France, the European Union, and Belgium	8-14 June 2025
7	Visit to the US	30 June -2 July 2025
8	Visit to Singapore and China	13-15 July 2025
9	Visit to Russia	19 – 21 August 2025

S. No.	Visit	Date
10	Visit to Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	27 October 2025
11	Visit to Ontario, Canada	11-13 November 2025
12	Visit to Russia	17-18 November 2025
13	Visit to the United Arab Emirates and Israel	13-16 December 2025
14	Visit to Sri Lanka	23 December 2025

ANNEXURE XV

Incoming Visits

S. No.	Visit	Date
Presidents/Prime Ministers/Heads of States		
1	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam, President of the Republic of Singapore	14–18 January 2025
2	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Prabowo Subianto, President of the Republic of Indonesia	23–26 January 2025
3	State Visit of H.H. Sheikh Tamim Bin Hamad Al Thani, Amir of the State of Qatar	17 and 18 February 2025
4	Visit of H.E. Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan to India	20–22 February 2025
5	Visit of H.E. Ms. Ursula von der Leyen, President of the European Commission	27 and 28 February 2025
6	Visit of Rt. Hon. Christopher Luxon, Prime Minister of New Zealand	16–20 March 2025
7	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Gabriel Boric Font, President of the Republic of Chile	01–05 April 2025
8	State Visit of H.E. Mr. João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço, President of the Republic of Angola	02–04 May 2025
9	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Santiago Peña, President of the Republic of Paraguay	02–04 June 2025
10	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Ferdinand Romualdez Marcos Jr., President of the Republic of the Philippines	04–08 August 2025
11	Visit of Hon'ble Mr. Sitiveni Ligamamada Rabuka, Prime Minister of Fiji & Mrs. Suluweti Rabuka	24–27 August 2025
12	Visit of H.E. Mr. Lawrence Wong, Prime Minister of Singapore & Mrs. Lawrence Wong	2–4 September 2025
13	Visit of H.E. Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan & Aum Tashi Doma	3–6 September 2025
14	State Visit of Dr. Navinchandra Ramgoolam, Prime Minister of Mauritius & Mrs. Veena Ramgoolam	9–16 September 2025
15	Visit of Rt. Hon. Sir Keir Starmer, Prime Minister of the United Kingdom	8 and 9 October 2025
16	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Khurelsukh Ukhnaa, President of Mongolia	13–16 October 2025
17	Visit of H.E. Mr. Geraldo Alckmin, Vice President of Brazil & Ms. Maria Lucia Alckmin	15–17 October 2025
18	Visit of H.E. Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, Prime Minister of Sri Lanka	16–18 October 2025
19	State Visit of H.E. Mr. Vladimir Putin, President of the Russian Federation	4 and 5 December 2025
Foreign Ministers or Equivalent		
1	Visit of H.E. Dr. Abdulla Khaleel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Maldives	2–4 January 2025
2	Visit of H.E. Mr. George Gerapetritis, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece	5–8 February 2025
3	Visit of H.E. Mr. Ararat Mirzoyan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Armenia	9–11 March 2025
4	Visit of H.E. Mr. Caspar Veldkamp, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands	31 March –1 April 2025

S. No.	Visit	Date
5	Visit of H.E. Dr. Seyed Abbas Araghchi, Foreign Minister of Iran	7 and 8 May 2025
6	Visit of H.E. Mr. Eduardo Enrique Reina Garcia, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Honduras	15–18 May 2025
7	Visit of H.E. Dr. Abdulla Khaleel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Maldives	25–27 May 2025
8	Visit of Rt. Hon. Winston Peters, Deputy Prime Minister & Foreign Minister of New Zealand	29 and 30 May 2025
9	Visit of H.E. Mr. Murat Nurtleu, Deputy Prime Minister & Foreign Minister of Kazakhstan	4–6 June 2025
10	Visit of H.E. Mr. Sirojiddin Muhriddin, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Tajikistan	5–7 June 2025
11	Visit of H.E. Mr. Zheenbek Kulubaev, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Kyrgyz Republic	5–7 June 2025
12	Visit of H.E. Mr. Rashid Meredov, Deputy Chairman & Foreign Minister of Turkmenistan	5–7 June 2025
13	Visit of H.E. Mr. Bakhtiyor Saidov, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uzbekistan	5–6 June 2025
14	Visit of H.E. Mr. Gan Kim Yong, Deputy Prime Minister & Minister for Trade & Industry of Singapore	12–14 August 2025
15	Visit of H.E. Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Singapore	12–13 August 2025
16	Visit of H.E. Mr. Cho Hyun, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Korea	15–17 August 2025
17	Visit of H.E. Mr. Wang Yi, Foreign Minister of China	18–20 August 2025
18	Visit of H.E. Dr. Johann David Wadephul, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany	2 and 3 September 2025
19	Official Visit of Hon'ble Anita Anand, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Canada	12–14 October 2025
20	Visit of H.E. Dr. Badr Abdelatty, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt	16 and 17 October 2025
21	Visit of H.E. Dr. Constantinos Kombos, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus	29–31 October 2025
22	Visit of H.E. Dr. Abdullatif Bin Rashid Alzayani, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Bahrain	2 and 3 November 2025
23	Official Visit of H.E. Mr. Gideon Sa'ar, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Israel	3–5 November 2025
24	Visit of Senator Penny Wong, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia	19 and 20 November 2025
25	Visit of H.E. Mr. Sihasak Phuangketkeow, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Thailand & Mrs. Waraporn Phuangketkeow	29 November- 2 December 2025
26	Official Visit of H.E. Mr. Antonio Tajani, Deputy Prime Minister & Foreign Minister of Italy	10–12 December 2025
27	Visit of H.E. Mr. David Van Weel, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands	17–19 December 2025
Other VVIP Visits		
1	Visit of H.E. Mr. Nurlan Yermekbayev, Secretary General of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization	4–7 February 2025
2	Visit of H.E. Mr. Philemon Yang, President of the United Nations General Assembly	4–8 February 2025

S. No.	Visit	Date
3	Visit of H.H. Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai	8–9 April 2025
4	Visit of Rt. Hon. David Lammy MP, Secretary of State for Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Affairs of the United Kingdom	7–8 June 2025
Multilateral/Other Meetings		
1	4th India- Central Asia Dialogue	5-6 June 2025
2	Visit of dignitaries for Raisina Dialogue 2025	2025

ANNEXURE XVI

Cadre strength at Headquarters and Missions abroad during 2025-26 as on 01.10.2025 (including ex-cadred posts and posts of POE)

S.No.	Cadre/Post	Posts at Hqrs.	Posts at Missions	Total
1	Grade I	6	29	35
2	Grade II	11	51	62
3	Grade III	54	155	209
4	Grade IV	64	175	239
5	Junior Admn. Grade/Senior Scale	122	351	473
6	(i) Junior Scale	20	25	45
	(ii) Probationers Reserve	83		83
	(iii) Leave Reserve	15		15
	(iv) Deputation Reserve	19		19
	(v) Training Reserve	7		7
	Sub Total I	**401**	**786**	**1187**
	IFS(B)			
7	(i) Grade I	118	126	244
	(ii) Deputation Reserve	6		6
8	(i) Integrated Grades II & III	365	286	651
	(ii) Leave Reserve	30		30
	(iii) Deputation Reserve	16		16
	(iv) Training Reserve	25		25
9	(i) Grade IV	220	649	869
	(ii) Leave Reserve	60		60
	(iii) Deputation Reserve	54		54
10	(i) Grade V/VI	173	84	257
	(ii) Leave Reserve	60		60
	(iii) Deputation Reserve	14		14
11	(i) Grade II of Cypher Cadre	32	76	108
	(ii) Leave Reserve	5		5
12	(i) Stenographer's Cadre	523	626	1149

S.No.	Cadre/Post	Posts at Hqrs.	Posts at Missions	Total
	(ii) Leave Reserve	47		47
	(iii) Training Reserve (Hindi)	10		10
	(iv) Deputation Reserve	12		12
13	Interpreter's Cadre	9	26	35
14	L&T Cadre	20	3	23
	Sub Total II	**1799**	**1876**	**3675**
	Grand Total(Sub total I+II)	**2200**	**2662**	**4862**

LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

A

AALCO	Asia Africa Legal Consultative Organization
AATO	Armament and Ammunition Technical Officer
ABAS	Antigua and Barbuda Agenda for SIDS
ACB	Afghan Cricket Board
ACD	Asia Cooperation Development
ACITI	Australia–India–Canada Technology and Innovation Partnership
ACMECS	Ayeyawady-Chao Phraya-Mekong Economic Cooperation Strategy
ACMP	Agreement on the use of Chattogram and Mongla Ports for Movement of Goods to and from India
ACTREC	Advance Centre for Training, Research and Education in Cancer
ADB	Asian Development Bank
ADMM +	ASEAN Defence Minister Meeting Plus
ADMM-Plus	ASEAN Defence Ministers' Meeting-Plus
AED	Asia Economic Dialogue
AERB	Atomic Energy Regulatory Board
AfCFTA	African Continental Free Trade Area
AFINDEX	Africa-India Exercise
AFMS	Armed Forces Medical Services
AG	Australia Group
AIIA	All India Institute of Ayurveda
AIIMS	All India Institute of Medical Sciences
AIWC	Australia India Water Centre
AKAM	Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
AMEXCID	Mexican Agency for International Development Cooperation
AMR	Advanced Modular Reactors
ANAMAR	National Authority for Maritime Affairs, Dominican Republic
ANASTU	Afghan National Agricultural Science and Technical University
ANF	Aids to Navigation Fund

ANRF	Anusandhan National Research Foundation
APA	Asian Parliamentary Assembly
APMBC	Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention
APPU	Asia-Pacific Postal Union
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
ASEM	Asia-Europe Meeting
ASS	Africa Scholarship Scheme
ASSOCHAM	The Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry
AU	African Union
AVP	Academic Visitors Programme

B

BADP	Border Area Development Programme
BARC	Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
BBIN Motor Vehicle Agreement	Bangladesh, Bhutan, India and Nepal (BBIN) Motor Vehicle Agreement
BBNJ	Biodiversity Beyond National Jurisdiction
BCCI	Board of Control for Cricket in India
BCGSI	Bilateral Consultative Group on Security Issues
BDAF	Bangladesh Armed Forces
BFDA	Bhutan Food and Drug Authority
BHEL	Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
BIMSTEC	Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation
BoI	Bureau of Immigration
BPDB	Bangladesh Power Development Board
BPWC	BIMSTEC Permanent Working Committee
BRICS	Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa
BTWC	Biological & Toxin Weapons Convention

C

CAG	Comptroller and Auditor General of India
CAMM	Common Agenda on Migration and Mobility
CAR	Central African Republic
CARICOM	Caribbean Community
CBD COP16	Conference of Parties to the Convention on Biological Diversity
CBIC	Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs
CBPR	Cross-Border Payments and Reporting
CCCB	Command & Control Compatibility Board
CCIT	Convention on Countering of International Terrorism
CCUS	Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage
CD	Cyber Diplomacy
CD	Conference on Disarmament
CDF	Chief of Defence Staff
CDRI	Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure
CDS	Chief of Defence Staff
CDSCO	Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation
CEC	Central Election Commission
CEDT	Centre for Entrepreneurship Training and Development
CEIT	Center of Excellence in IT
CELAC	Community of Latin American and Caribbean States
CEPA	Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement
CERN	The European Organization for Nuclear Research
CFM	Moçâmedes Railway Company
CGIMA	Contact Group on Illicit Maritime Activities
CHG	Council of Heads of Government
CHOGM	Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting
CICA	Conference on Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia
CII	Confederation of Indian Industry
CIM	Minister of Commerce and Industry
CIS	Commonwealth of Independent States

CISC	Chief of Integrated Defence Staff
CIRDAP	Centre on Integrated Rural Development for Asia and the Pacific
CJI	Chief Justice of India
CNES	National Centre for Space Studies (French National Space Agency)
CNT	National Transition Council
CoAS	Chief of Army Staff
COFCOR- CARICOM	Council for Foreign and Community Relations- Caribbean Community
COM	Council of Ministers
COMESA	Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa
COMPACT	Catalyzing Opportunities for Military Partnership, Accelerated Commerce & Technology
CORSIA	Carbon Offsetting and Reduction Scheme for International Aviation
CP	Colombo Process
CPC	Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference
CPD58	58th Session of the Commission on Population and Development
CPF	Counter Proliferation Financing
CSC	Common Services Centres
CSC	Colombo Security Conclave
CSIR	Council of Scientific and Industrial Research
CSIR-NIO	CSIR-National Institute of Oceanography
CSIS	Centre for Strategic and International Studies
CSLM	Commerce Secretary Level Meeting
CT	Counter Terrorism
CWC	Chemical Weapons Convention

D

DAE	Department of Atomic Energy
DBT	Department of Biotechnology
DCoC-JA	Djibouti Code of Conduct – Jeddah Amendment
DDP	Department of Defence Production

DEA	Department of Economic Affairs
DEWG	Digital Economy Working Group
DGFT	Directorate General of Foreign Trade
DGRIS	Director General for International Relations and Strategy
DIA	Document Issuing Authorities
DICSEP	Dubrovnik International conference on the Sanskrit Epics and Puranas
DIGEMAPS	Directorate General of Medicines, Food and Health Products
DPA	Development Partnership Administration
DPI	Digital Public Infrastructure
DPIIT	Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
DPM	Deputy Prime Minister
DPRK	Democratic People's Republic of Korea
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DRDO	Defence Research and Development Organisation
DV Day	Distinguished Visitors Day
DWCP	Decent Work Country Programme
DWG	Defence Working Group

E

EAM	External Affairs Minister
EAS	East Asia Summit
EAS FMM	EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting
EAS SOM	EAS Senior Officials' Meeting
EBRD	European Bank for Reconstruction and Development
ECA	Export Credit Agency
ECOSOC	Economic and Social Council
ECR	Emigration Check Required
ECTA	Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement
EDB	Economic Development Board
EEC	Eastern Economic Corridor

EEPC	Engineering Export Promotion Council
EFD	Economic and Financial Dialogue
EG&IT	e-Governance and Information Technology
EMTCT	Elimination of Mother-to-Child Transmission
EOI	Embassy of India
EP&W	Emigration Policy and Welfare
EPCC	Executive Programme on Cultural Cooperation
EPCES	Export Promotion Council for EOUs and SEZs
EPCH	Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts
EPCP	Electric Propulsion Capability Partnership
ESC	Electronics and Computer Software Export Promotion Council
ESG	Executive Steering Group
ESP	Economic Stimulus Programme
EU	European Union
EV	Electric Vehicle
e-VBAB	e-Vidya Bharti Arogya Bharti
EWG	Employment Working Group

F

FAB	Brazilian Air Force
FASF	French Air and Space Force
FATF	Financial Action Task Force
FCBD	Finance and Central Bank Deputies
FCMNO	Constancia Mangue Nsue Okomo Foundation
FCSA	Framework on Currency Swap Arrangement
FE	Foreign Employers
FET	Female Engagement Team
FFFC	Friendly Foreign Countries
FfD4	Financing for Development
FICCI	Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry

FIEO	Federation of Indian Export Organizations
FLS	Final Location Survey
FLS	Foundational Learning Survey
FMCBG	Finance Ministers and Central Bank Governors
FMD	Financial Markets Dialogue
FMFD	Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue
FMM	France Media Monde
FOCs	Foreign Office Consultations
FoGG	Friends of the Gulf of Guinea
FPG	Fukuoka Prefectural Government
FSB	Financial Stability Board
FSSAI	Food Safety and Standards Authority of India
FTF	Foreign Terrorists Fighters
FYP	Five Year Plan

G

GSDP	Green and Sustainable Development
GASCC	Global Air and Space Chiefs' Conference
GASCC	Global Air and Space Chiefs' Conference
GBA	Global Biofuels Alliance
GCM	Global Compact for Safe, Orderly, and Regular Migration
GCNEP	Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership
GCTF	Global Counter Terrorism Forum
GCTS	Global Counter Terrorism Strategy
GFF	Global Fintech Fest
GGE	Group of Governmental Experts
GGE on LAWS	Group of Governmental Experts on Emerging Technologies in the Area of Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems
GMC	Goa Maritime Conclave
GMC	Gelephu Mindfulness City

GMCOS	Gandhi Mandela Centre of Specialization
GlobE Network	Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities
GMCP	Greater Male Connectivity Project
GOFVOT	Group of Friends of Victims of Terrorism
GoG	Gulf of Guinea
GoI-UNSCDF	Government of India-United Nations Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework
GPAI	Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence
GPFI	Global Partnership for Financial Inclusion
GSDR	Global Sovereign Debt Roundtable
GSL	Goa Shipyard Ltd
GSS	Global Standardization Symposium
GTS	Global Technology Summit

H

HAA	High Altitude Area
HADR	Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief
HAL	Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
HCCH	Hague Conference on Private International Law
HCI	High Commission of India
HCoC	Hague Code of Conduct
HCSS	Hague Centre for Strategic Studies
HICDP	High Impact Community Development Project
HJC	High-Joint Commission
HLCG	High Level Core Group
HLDMM	India-EU High-Level Dialogue on Migration and Mobility
HLPF	High-Level Political Forum
HLW	High-Level-Week
HRVP	High Representative and Vice President

I

IA	Implementation Agreement
IABC	India-Argentina Business Council
IAEA	International Atomic Energy Agency
IAF	Indian Armed Forces
IAFS	India-Africa Forum Summit
IATC	India Africa Trade Council
IBC	International Buddhist Confederation
IBCA	International Big Cat Alliance
IBF	India-Bhutan Foundation
IBSA	India, Brazil, South Africa
ICA	International Cooperative Alliance
ICAO	International Civil Aviation Organisation
ICC	International Criminal Court
ICCR	Indian Council for Cultural Relations
iCET	Critical and Emerging Technologies
ICH	Intangible Cultural Heritage
ICJ	International Court of Justice
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
ICMR	Indian Council for Medical Research
ICP	Immigration Check Posts
ICP	Integrated Check Post
ICPRCP	Intergovernmental Committee for Promoting the Return of Cultural Property to its country of Origin or Restitution in case of illegal appropriation
ICRISAT	International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics
ICT	Information and Communication Technology
ICWA	Indian Council of World Affairs
ICWF	Indian Community Welfare Fund
IDY	International Day of Yoga
IEA	International Energy Agency

IED	Improvised Explosive Device
IESAA	Indo-European Science and Arts Association
IETO	India Economic Trade Organization
IEW	India Energy Week
IFC-IOR	Information Fusion Centre-Indian Ocean Region
IFCPAR	Indo-French Center for Promotion of Advanced Research
IFREMER	French Institute for Ocean Science
IFTM	International and French Travel Market
IGA	Inter-Governmental Agreement
IGBF	Indo-German Business Forum
IGC	Intergovernmental Consultations
IGN	Intergovernmental Negotiations
IGSTC	Indo-German Science and Technology Centre
IIDEA	International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance
IIFT	Indian Institute of Foreign Trade
IIT	Indian Institute of Technology
IITM	Indian Institute of Tropical Meteorology
ILC	International Labour Conference
ILC	International Law Commission
ILO	International Labour Organization
IMD	Indian Meteorological Department
IMEC	India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor
IMF	International Monetary Fund
IMO	International Maritime Organization
IMRC	India-Mexico Research Consortium
IMT	India-Myanmar-Thailand
IMT Trilateral Highway	India-Myanmar-Thailand (IMT) Trilateral Highway
IMT-GT	Indonesia–Malaysia–Thailand Growth Triangle
IMWG	Inter-Ministerial Working Group

INAC	International Arts and Crafts
INB	Intergovernmental Negotiating Body
INDUS X	India-US Defence Acceleration Ecosystem
INI-CET	Institute of National Importance Combined Entrance Test
INS	Indian Naval Ship
IOC	Indian Ocean Commission
IOM	International Organisation for Migration
IORA	Indian Ocean Rim Association
IPACC	Indo-Pacific Armies Chiefs Conference
IPAMS	Indo-Pacific Management Seminar
IPCC	Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change
IPEF	Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity
IPEN	Peruvian Institute of Nuclear Energy
IPHEX LATAM	International Exhibition for Pharma And Healthcare Latin America
IPMDA	Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness
IPOI	Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative
IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
IRENA	International Renewable Energy Agency
IRIGC-M&MTC	India-Russia Inter-Governmental Commission on Military and Military Technical Cooperation
IRIGC-TEC	India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission for Trade, Economic, Scientific & Cultural Cooperation
ISA	International Solar Alliance
ISB	Indian School of Business
ISPS	International Ship and Port Facility Security
ISRO	Indian Space Research Organisation
ITA	India Taipei Association
ITEC	Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation
ITER	International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor
ITPO	India Trade Promotion Organisation

ITRA	Institute of Agronomic Research
ITU	International Telecommunication Union
IUSSTD	India-US Strategic Trade Dialogue
IYM	International Year of Millets

J

JAIMEX	Japan–India Maritime Exercise
JAM	Jan Dhan-Aadhar-Mobile
JASDF	Japan Air Self-Defence Force
JCEC	Joint Committee on Economic Cooperation
JCIFM	Joint Committee on Inundation and Flood Management
JDCC	Joint Defence Cooperation Committee
JDP	Joint Development Plan
JEC	Japanese Endowed Courses
JETRO	Japan External Trade Relation Organisation
JIM	Japan-India Institutes for Manufacturing
JIMEX	Japan-India Maritime Exercise
JIPMER	Jawaharlal Institute of Postgraduate Medical Education and Research
JMC	Joint Ministerial Commission
JNPA	Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority
JNPP	Jaitapur Nuclear Power Project
JPoA	Joint Plan of Action
JSC	Joint Steering Committee
JSDF	Japan Self Defence Force
JSTC	Joint Science and Technology Committee
JSW School of Law	Jigme Singye Wangchuck (JSW) School of Law
JTG	Joint Technology Group
JWG	Joint Working Group
JWG-CT	Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism
JWG-CTTC	Joint Working Group on Counter Terrorism and Transnational Crime

K

KIP	Know India Programme
KMTTP	Kaladan Multi-Modal Transit Transport Project

L

L & T	Larsen & Toubro
LAAD	Latin American Defence and Security Exhibition
LAC	Line of Actual Control
LCS	Land Customs Stations
LCS	Local Currency Settlement
LDCs	Least Developed Countries
LiFE	Lifestyle for Environment
LIGO	Laser Interferometer Gravitational-Wave Observatory
LLDCs	Landlocked Developing Countries
LMA	Labour Mobility Agreements
LMIS	Labour Market Information System
LNG	Liquified Natural Gas
LOC	Line of Credit
LoC	Line of Control
LTAG	Long-Term Aspirational Goals

M

MAF	Mongolian Armed Forces
MAHSR	Mumbai-Ahmedabad High Speed Rail
MAHASAGAR	Mutual and Holistic Advancement for Security and Growth Across Regions
MAITRI	Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific
MANAGE	National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management
MAPL	Motihari-Amlekhgunj Petroleum Pipeline Project
MARCOS	Marine Commando Force

MATES	Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early-Professionals Scheme
MBC	Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation
MCG	Military Cooperation Group
MDB	Multilateral Development Bank
MDTI	Ministerial Dialogue on Trade and Investment
Medvac	Medical Evacuation
MFFLI	Merck Foundation First Ladies Initiative
MGC	Mekong Ganga Cooperation
MIDC	Maharashtra Industrial Development Corporation
MIFC	Mauritius International Financial Centre
MIFCO	Maldives Industrial Fisheries Company
MIIM	Make in India Mittelstand
MIT	Massachusetts Institute of Technology
MLAT	Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Treaties
MMP	Migration and Mobility Partnerships
MMPA	Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement
MNDF	Maldives National Defence Force
MNRE	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
MoA	Memorandum of Agreement
MOCA	Ministry of Civil Aviation
MONUSCO	United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo
MoS (KVS)	Minister of State for External Affairs of India (Kirti Vardhan Singh)
MoS (PM)	Minister of State for External Affairs of India (Pabitra Margherita)
MPI	Migration Policy Institute
MPS	Maldives Police Service
MPX	Maritime Partnership Exercise
MRCC	Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre
MSC	Munich Security Conference
MSC	Military Sealift Command

MSDE	Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
MSDTF	Mauritius Sanatan Dharma Temples Federation
MSMEs	Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises
MTCR	Missile Technology Control Regime
MVR	Maldivian Rufiyaa

N

NAM	Non-Aligned Movement
NASA	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
NASRDA	National Space Research and Development Agency
NCB	Narcotics Control Bureau
NCC	National Cadet Corps
NCGG	National Centre for Good Governance
NCGG-SLIDA	National Centre for Good Governance – Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration Programme
NCMM	National Critical Mineral Mission
NCMRWF	National Center for Medium Range Weather Forecast
NCQG	New Collective Quantified Goal
NDC	National Defence College
NDDB	National Dairy Development Board
NDLD	New Delhi G20 Leaders' Declaration
NDV	Nuclear Disarmament Verification
NEA	Nepal Electricity Authority
NGHM	National Green Hydrogen Mission
NHPC	National Hydroelectric Power Corporation
NIBC	Nigeria-India Business Council
NIBSS	Nigeria Inter-Bank Settlement System
NiMET	Nigerian Meteorological Agency
NIMHANS	National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro-Sciences
NIOT	National Institute of Ocean Technology

NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
NMFT	No Money for Terror Ministerial Conference
NOAA	National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Agency
NPCI	National Payments Corporation of India
NRI	Non-Resident Indians
NSA	National Security Advisor
NSDC	National Skill Development Corporation
NSF	National Science Foundation
NSG	Nuclear Suppliers Group
NSIL	New Space India Limited
NVVN	NTPC Vidyut Vyapar Nigam Ltd.

O

OCI	Overseas Citizen of India
ODOP	One District, One Product
OECD	Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development
OEWG	Open Ended Working Group
OFA	One Future Alliance
OHCHR	Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
ONR	Office of Naval Research
OPCW	Organisation for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons
ORP	Oil Refinery Project
OSCE	Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe
OSOWOG	One Sun, One World, One Grid
OUSD (R&E)	Office of the US Under Secretary of Defence for Research & Engineering
OVL	ONGC Videsh Ltd

P

PAMED	Sustainable Livelihoods Improvement Programme
PASSEX	Passage Exercise

PB	Prasar Bharati
PBBY	Pravasi Bharatiya Bima Yojana
PBC	Peacebuilding Commission
PBD	Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas
PBSA	Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Awards
PCA	Permanent Court of Arbitration
PCFD	Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats
PCTD	Promotion of Cultural Ties with Diaspora
PDAC	Prospectors & Developers Association of Canada
PDCTO	Principal Deputy Chief Technology Officer
PDNSA	Principal Deputy National Security Advisor
PDOT	Pre-Departure Orientation Training
PGA	President of General Assembly
PGE	Protector General of Emigrants
PGII	Partnership for Global Infrastructure and Investment
PGIMER	Postgraduate Institute of Medical Education and Research
PHARMEXCIL	Pharmaceuticals Export Promotion Council of India
PHDCCI	PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry
PHPA	Punatsangchhu Hydroelectric Project Authority
PIC	Pacific Island Countries
PIO	Persons of Indian Origin
PKVY	Pravasi Kaushal Vikas Yojna
PMBJP	Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana
PMI	Permanent Mission of India
POE	Protector of Emigrants
POPSK	Post Office Passport Seva Kendra
PPPR	Pandemic Prevention, Preparedness, and Response
PPR	Preliminary Project Report
PQIS	Phyto Quarantine Inspection Services
PR	Permanent Representative

PRR	Prosecutions, Rehabilitation and Reintegration
PSC	Project Steering Committee
PSK	Passport Seva Kendra
PSLK	Passport Seva Laghu Kendra
PSP	Passport Seva Project
PTA	Project Tied Assistance

Q

QCPR	Quadrennial Comprehensive Policy Review
QFMM	Quad Foreign Ministers' Meeting
QIF	Quad Infrastructure Fellowships
QIP	Quick Impact Project
QMSWG	Quad Maritime Security Working Group
QUIN	Quad Investors Network

R

RA	Recruiting Agents
RATS	Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure
RCs	Registration Certificate
ReCAAP	Regional Cooperation Agreement on Combating Piracy and Armed Robbery against Ships in Asia
RETAP	Renewable Energy Technology Action Platform
RIAT	Royal International Air Tattoo
RIIDC	Rajasthan State Industrial Development and Investment Corporation
RIKEN	Institute of Physical and Chemical Research
RITES Ltd.	Rail India Technical and Economic Service Limited
ROC	Republic of Congo
RPO	Regional Passport Office
RSDP	Rakhine State Development Programme
RVNL	Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

S

SADC	South African Development Cooperation
SAGAR	Security and Growth for All in the Region
SAMHITA	South Asian Manuscript Histories and Textual Archive
SATTE	South Asia's Travel and Tourism Exchange
SCEP	Strategic Clean Energy Partnership
SCF	Standby Credit Facility
SCO	Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
SCO CHS	SCO Council of Heads of State
SCO RATS	Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation
SCOMET	Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SEALs	US Navy Sea, Air, and Land Teams
SELF	Senior Enlisted Leaders Forum
SELM	Space Economy Leaders Meeting
SERB	Science and Engineering Research Board
SFS	Self-Financing Scheme
SGOS	Sectoral Group of Secretaries
SIBS	Sweden-India Business Council
SIDS	Small Island and Developing States
SICA	Central American Integration System
SII	Study in India
SIPCOT	State Industries Promotion Corporation of Tamil Nadu
SIPO	Singapore-India Partnership Office
SJVL	Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam
SLIDA	Sri Lanka Institute of Development Administration
SMR	Small Modular Reactors
SOMS	Straits of Malacca and Singapore
SOPECAM	Cameroon Press and Publishing Company

SOSA	Security of Supply Arrangement
SoTF	Summit of the Future
SPDC	Scholarship Programme for Diaspora Children
SPEED	Shared Prosperity through Enhanced Engagements in Defence
SPTC	Seychelles Public Transport Corporation
SSA	Social Security Agreements
SSIFS	Sushma Swaraj Institute of Foreign Service
SSW	Specified Skilled Workers
STAR-C	Solar Technology Application Resource Centre
STINT	Swedish Foundation for International Cooperation in Research and Higher Education
STP	Sao Tome and Principe
T/PCC	Troop/ Police Contributing Countries
TAWG	Thematic Area Working Groups
TCC	Troop Contributing Countries
TDC	Trilateral Development Cooperation
TEC	Technical and Economic Cooperation
TECC	Taipei Economic and Cultural Centre
TEPA	Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement
TIFF	Tashkent International Film Festival
TIFF	Toronto International Film Festival
TIR	Transport International Routier
ToT	Training of Trainers
TPF	Trade Policy Forum
TRUST	Transforming the Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology
TSI	Technology Security Initiative
TSUL	Tashkent State University of Law
TT&C	Telemetry, Tracking & Command
TTC	Trade and Technology Council

U

UDHR	Universal Declaration of Human Rights
UNAIDS	UN Programme on HIV/AIDS Program
UNCCI	UNCITRAL National Coordination Committee India
UNCCT	United Nations Counter Terrorism Center
UNCITRAL	United Nations Commission on International Trade Law
UNCOPUOS	United Nations Committee on Peaceful Uses of Outer Space
UNDC	United Nations Disarmament Commission
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
UNESCAP	United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific & Cultural Organization
UNFCCC	United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change
UNGA	United Nations General Assembly
UNHRC	United Nations Human Rights Council
UNIDIR	United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research
UNIDROIT	International Institute for the Unification of Private Law
UNOCT	United Nations Office of Counter Terrorism
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRCCA	United Nations Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia
UNSC	United Nations Security Council
UNSG	United Nations Secretary General
UPI	Unified Payments Interface
UPITS	Uttar Pradesh International Trade Show
UPU	Universal Postal Union
US DoD DIU	US Department of Defence, Defence Innovation Unit
USMSC	US Military Sealift Command
USTR	US Trade Representative
UTF	Uthuru Thila Falhu

V

VBSM	Virtual Buyer Seller Meet
VDPA	Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action
VET	Vocational Education and Training
VoGSS	Voice of Global South Summit
VUCL	Vidhyut Utpadan Company Limited

W

WA	Wassenaar Arrangement
WFP	World Food Program
WG UPR	Working Group of the Universal periodic Review
WGIHR	Working Group on Amendments to the International Health Regulations
WHC	World Hindi Conference
WHO	World Health Organization
WMCC	Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination
WMD	Weapons of Mass Destruction
WMO	World Meteorological Organization
WNBR	World Network of Biosphere Reserves
WPS	Women, Peace and Security
WTSA	World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly

X

XPD	External Publicity & Public Diplomacy

Y

YA	Yaoundé Architecture
YEP	Youth Exchange Programme
YPS	Young Professionals Schemes