

Ministry of External Affairs
Policy Planning and Research Division

Overview of Major Achievements during the Month of July 2023

High-Level Diplomatic Engagements/Interactions:

- 1.** In July, the visits of the Prime Minister to France and the UAE; and EAM to Tanzania, Indonesia and Thailand were the major outgoing visits. Incoming visits included those of the President of Sri Lanka and the Foreign Ministers of Maldives and Japan.
- 2.** The President of Sri Lanka paid an official visit to India on July 21. During the visit, he met the Hon'ble President. On July 21, Prime Minister held delegation-level talks with the Sri Lankan President.
- 3.** The Secretary General of the Muslim World League called on the Hon'ble President on July 12.
- 4.** On July 31, a Parliamentary Delegation from Malawi, led by the Speaker of Malawi National Assembly, called on the Hon'ble President.
- 5.** Prime Minister paid an official visit to France from July 13-14 at the invitation of the French President. He was the Guest of Honour at the Bastille Day Parade on July 14, where a tri-services Indian armed forces contingent participated in the parade. In a rare honour, Prime Minister was also conferred with the *Grand Cross of the Legion of Honour*, France's highest civilian award, by the French President.
- 6.** Prime Minister visited the UAE on July 15. In Abu Dhabi, Prime Minister held talks with the President of the UAE, the President-designate of CoP28 and met the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi.
- 7.** Prime Minister's other engagements in the month included his meeting with Yoshihide Suga, Chairman JIA and former PM of Japan, along with the 'Ganesha group' of Japanese Parliamentarians and Keidanren (Japan Business Federation) CEOs on July 6.
- 8.** The Foreign Minister of Maldives paid an official two-day visit to India on July 11-12.

EAM's engagements:

- 9.** EAM visited Tanzania from July 5-8. EAM first visited Zanzibar from 5-6 July, where he called on the President of Zanzibar on July 6. EAM called on

the President of Tanzania on July 8 and co-chaired the 10th India-Tanzania Joint Commission Meeting with his Tanzanian counterpart on July 8.

10. EAM visited Indonesia for the ASEAN Foreign Ministers' Meetings where he also participated in the East Asia Summit and ASEAN Regional Forum on July 13 and 14. EAM co-chaired the ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers meeting on July 13. On the sidelines, EAM met his counterparts from Canada, USA, UK, Thailand, Singapore, Russia, South Korea, New Zealand, Indonesia, Brunei, Lao PDR, Malaysia, Vietnam, ASEAN Secretary General, EU High Representative, and the Director of the Office of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the CCP. EAM also participated in the 2nd India-Australia-Indonesia trilateral with his counterparts. On July 14, EAM called on the President of Indonesia.

11. EAM travelled to Thailand, where he co-chaired the 12th Foreign Ministers' Meeting of the Mekong Ganga Cooperation Mechanism on July 16. In Bangkok, EAM attended the BIMSTEC Foreign Ministers' Retreat on July 17. EAM called on the Prime Minister of Thailand along with colleagues from BIMSTEC countries. On the sidelines, EAM met with his counterparts from Nepal, Bangladesh, and Thailand.

12. On July 20, EAM met the German Vice Chancellor during his visit to India. The discussion involved new opportunities for India-Germany cooperation.

13. The Foreign Minister of Japan paid an official visit to India for the 15th India-Japan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue with EAM on July 27. The Ministers engaged in comprehensive discussions covering a wide range of issues of bilateral, regional, and global significance. On July 28, EAM and the Japanese Foreign Minister spoke at the India-Japan Forum in New Delhi.

14. EAM participated in the BRICS Foreign Ministers' virtual meeting held on July 20.

15. EAM's other engagements included his meeting with the UN Deputy Secretary-General in New Delhi on July 4; with the Chairman of Japan Bank for International Cooperation on July 4; with Chandrakanth Arya, Member of the Canadian Parliament on July 11; with the Secretary General of the Muslim World League on July 11; with the President of World Bank in New Delhi on July 19; remarks at the book release of "The Importance of

Shinzo Abe” on July 20; and his meeting with the Foreign Secretary of Bhutan on July 29.

MOS(VM)’s engagements:

16. MoS (VM) paid an official visit to Syria from July 12-13, the first Ministerial-level visit from India to Syria since August 2016. During the visit, MoS called on the Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of Syria and met other Syrian dignitaries on July 13. During the month, MoS (VM) inaugurated the 6th India-Arab Partnership Conference in New Delhi on July 11; met the Deputy Secretary General of the UN in New Delhi on July 4 and welcomed the Sri Lankan President on his maiden visit to India on July 20.

MOS (ML) engagements:

17. MoS (ML) paid an official visit to Croatia and North Macedonia from July 8-11. In Croatia, MoS participated in the Dubrovnik Forum on July 8, speaking on India’s role in the global order and stability. She held meetings with the Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia. On the sidelines of the Dubrovnik Forum, MoS (ML) met the Deputy Foreign Minister of the Czech Republic. In North Macedonia, she met the Minister of Foreign Affairs; Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; Deputy Minister of Culture and called on the President of the National Assembly of North Macedonia. MoS (ML) participated in the 8th BRICS Culture Ministers’ Meeting held in South Africa on July 21. On July 3, MoS (ML) inaugurated and addressed the seminar on UNIDROIT (International Institute for the Unification of Private Law) Projects, commemorating India's Presidency of UNIDROIT General Assembly. MoS (ML)’s other engagements included her meeting with the Deputy Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers of Kyrgyz Republic and his delegation on July 5; and hosting a high-level delegation from Brazil including distinguished Parliamentarians, UNICA (Brazil Sugarcane Industry Association), etc. on July 18.

MOS (RRS)’s engagements:

18. On July 6, MoS (RRS) addressed the opening of G20 India’s 4th Space Economy Leaders' Meeting in Bangalore.

Other engagements:

19. Secy (East) in Lao PDR, called on the Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister on July 27. On July 6, he held consultations with the Foreign Secretary of Bangladesh in Dhaka. Secy (CPV and OIA) paid an official visit to Palestine from July 5-7. During the visit, he called on the Prime Minister, Foreign Minister and Diplomatic Advisor to the President of Palestine.

20. Secy (ER), Special Secy (ER and DPA) met the Chairman of India International Arbitration Centre on July 17.

21. Secy (West) visited Baku, Azerbaijan from July 5-7 and participated in the 18th NAM Ministerial Meeting. Secy (West) held the 9th round of India-Ukraine FOC on July 13 in Kyiv with his Ukrainian counterpart. On 24 July, Secy (West) led the Indian delegation at the Second Meeting of the Joint Working Group on Counter-Terrorism, Countering Violent Extremism and De-Radicalisation between Maldives and India in Male. His other engagements in the month included: his participation as Sherpa in the preparatory meeting of the Champions of Global Crisis Response Group hosted by the UN Deputy Secretary-General on July 7; and his meeting with the US Under Secretary for Human Rights on July 10.

22. On the sidelines of the BRICS NSAs' Meeting in Johannesburg on July 24, NSA met the Director of the Office of the CPC Foreign Affairs Commission, Wang Yi.

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Foreign Office Consultations

24. Brunei

Secy (East) co-chaired the 8th FOC between India and Brunei on July 25.

25. Lao PDR

Secy (East) co-chaired 3rd FOC between India and Lao PDR on July 27.

26. Ukraine

Secy (West) held the 9th round of India-Ukraine FOC on July 13 in Kyiv with his Ukrainian counterpart.

Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs)

27. Papua New Guinea

On July 28, an MoU was signed between PNG's Secretary of ICT and India's CEO of National eGovernance Div on sharing India Stack, aiming to build capacities and implement population-scale Digital Public Infrastructure and Transformational Platforms for governance efficiency and transparency in PNG.

28. UAE

During Prime Minister visit, MoUs were signed for the establishment of the IIT Delhi campus in Abu Dhabi, to establish a Framework to promote the use of local currencies for cross-border Transactions; and cooperation for interlinking India-UAE payment and messaging systems.

29. Zanzibar

During EAM visit, an MoU to set up the first-ever campus of the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras outside India was signed between the two governments during the visit.

Humanitarian Aid/ Assistance

30. Afghanistan

The second and third shipments of 5000 MT wheat of the total 10000 MT have been supplied to Afghanistan, via Chabahar port in July 2023. The final shipment of 2500 MT is underway.

The tenth and final tranche of approx 5 tons of medicines was supplied to Afghanistan in July 2023. Till date, approx 103 tons of medicines have been delivered to various hospitals in Afghanistan.

31. Bhutan

The government of India has committed assistance of Rs. 4500 Crore for the implementation of development projects and Rs. 400 Crore for Transitional Trade Support Facility during Bhutan's 12th FYP (2018-2023).

32. Malawi

India extended humanitarian assistance to Malawi in the wake of the devastation caused by Tropical Cyclone 'Freddy' which hit Malawi on March 11.

33. Nepal

On 3rd July 2023, three School buildings of Shree Malika Higher Secondary School, Lalikanda; Shree Bhairav Secondary School, Badabhairav; Shree

Jagadish Secondary School, Badakhola and one Campus building of Shree Narayan Campus, Rampur built with GoI's financial assistance of NRs.108.60 million in Dailekh under 'Nepal-India Development Cooperation' were formally handed over to concerned local authorities of Govt. of Nepal.

Embassy of India, Kathmandu, on 16 July 2023 gifted 34 ambulances and 50 school buses to various organizations working in the fields of health and education respectively, spread across various districts of Nepal.

34. Ukraine

India supplied the first tranche of additional HADR comprising 2.8 tons of medicines and 14 tons of disaster relief material to Ukraine in July 2023, subsequent shipments are underway.
