

Ministry of External Affairs
Policy Planning and Research Division

Overview of Major Achievements during the month of November 2022

Diplomatic Engagements and Other Interactions:

- 1. Africa:** EAM interacted with Ministers of Education from 11 African countries on November 24, 2022.
- 2. ASEAN-India bilateral relations:** 2022 marks the 30th Anniversary of ASEAN-India relations and 10 years of ASEAN-India Strategic Partnership. Hon'ble Vice President (HVP) visited Cambodia from November 11-13 to attend the ASEAN-India Summit on November 12. The Summit was historic as it elevated the ASEAN-India relations to a Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.
- 3. Australia:** Free Trade Agreement with Australia was passed through the Australian Parliament on November 22, 2022.
- 4. Bhutan:** launch of India-Bhutan SAT, jointly developed by India and Bhutan, on November 26. A high-level delegation from Bhutan led by their Minister of Information and Communications specially travelled to Sriharikota to witness the launch. The India-Bhutan SAT will provide high-resolution images to Bhutan for the management of its natural resources.
- 5. Belarus:** EAM met with the incoming Foreign Minister of Belarus on November 9, 2022.
- 6. Cambodia:** In Cambodia, HVP also attended the 17th East Asia Summit on November 13 and had meetings with the Cambodian King, Prime Minister, and the President of the Senate. On the sidelines, HVP met the President of the US and the Prime Minister of Vietnam.
- 7.** EAM accompanied the HVP on his trip to Cambodia, where EAM met with his counterparts from Indonesia, Singapore, Ukraine, Canada, Philippines, USA, and Thailand, as well as UNSG and the Trade Minister of Canada.
- 8. Egypt:** Minister of Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav participated in COP 27 Summit from 6-10 November 2022.
- 9.** At the invitation of the PM, the President of Egypt will be the Chief Guest at India's Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 2023.

10. France: EAM met the French Minister of Armed Forces on November 28

11. Indonesia: EAM met the Indonesian Coordinating Minister for Politics, Legal and Human Rights on November 29, 2022

12. Iran: EAM met the Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister for Political Affairs on November 23, 2022.

13. GCC: EAM met the GCC Secretary-General on November 24, 2022.

14. Guyana: The President of Guyana will be the Chief Guest at the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention which will be held from January 8-10, 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.

15. G-20 Presidency: On November 8, PM unveiled the Logo, Theme and Website of India's G20 Presidency. PM visited Bali, Indonesia from November 14-16 to participate in the 17th G20 Leaders' Summit chaired by Indonesia. PM addressed the G20 sessions on *Food and Energy Security* on November 15 and *Digital Transformation* on November 16. At the closing ceremony of the Bali Summit, the Indonesian President symbolically handed over the G20 Presidency to the PM.

16. On November 26, a special briefing on G20 was held for envoys of G20 & invitee countries & international organizations in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands.

17. Qatar: HVP visited Qatar on November 20-21 where he attended the Opening Ceremony of the FIFA World Cup 2022 November 20 and met members of the Indian community on November 21. On the sidelines, he interacted with the Amir of Qatar, the UN Secretary-General, the FIFA President, the IOC President and several other world leaders.

18. Russia: EAM paid an official visit to Russia from November 7-8 where he co-chaired the India-Russia Intergovernmental Commission on Trade, Economic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Cooperation with the Deputy Prime Minister of Russia & Minister of Trade and Industry. He also met the Russian Foreign Minister during his visit.

19. **Syria:** EAM met the Foreign Minister of Syria on November 18, 2022.

20. **UAE:** On November 22, EAM met the Foreign Minister of UAE who was on an official visit to India from November 21-22.

EAM's other engagements:

21. EAM held phone calls with his counterparts from Maldives (November 10, 2022); Panama (November 18, 2022); Guatemala (November 18, 2022).

22. **SCO:** EAM participated in the 21st Meeting of the SCO Council of Heads of Government held in virtual format on November 1.

23. **No Money For Terror:** EAM addressed the '*No Money For Terror*' conference on November 19 and met the Maldives Home Minister on the sidelines of the conference. EAM joined the Minister of Agriculture on November 24 at the pre-launch of the International Year of Millets 2023.

24. EAM's other engagements in the month included interactions with met the youth delegation from Central Asian countries on November 22; addressed the session on "*Geodigital and its effects*" at the Global Technology Summit on November 29; and handed over financial assistance of USD 100 million to the Maldives on November 29 in the presence of the Foreign Minister and the Finance Minister of Maldives.

25. **MOS(VM)'s engagements:** MoS (VM) paid an official visit to Brazil on November 7-8 to attend the Session on "*75 years of India's Independence*" held in the Brazilian Parliament on November 8. During his visit, MoS called on the Vice President of Brazil and interacted with the Indian community. On November 10, MoS (VM) virtually interacted with UAE's Minister of Justice; participated in the Virtual Global Skill Summit along with 10 Heads of Missions on November 15; addressed delegates of the 48th Annual Meeting of the International Forum on Diplomatic Training on November 15, and joined EAM at the Regional Passport Officers' Conference on November 18.

26. **MOS(ML)'s engagements:** MoS (ML) met the Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs of Australia and the Minister of State, Home Affairs and Social and Family

Development of Singapore in separate meetings on November 18. On November 14, MoS (ML) also addressed the largest-ever yoga festival in Central America organized by the Indian Embassy in Guatemala on November 13; attended the closing ceremony of the 48th Annual Meeting of the International Forum on Diplomatic Training organized by SSIFS on November 16; and delivered the keynote address at the Global Technology Summit on November 30, 2022.

27. MOS(RRS)'s engagements: MoS (RRS) led the Indian delegation in the 22nd Council of Ministers' meeting of the Indian Ocean Rim Association held in Dhaka, Bangladesh on November 24. On the sidelines, he met the State Minister of Foreign Affairs of Somalia on November 24.

28. FS's engagements: On November 3, FS delivered address to the UN Security Council Open Debate on "*Integrating effective resilience building in peace operations for sustainable peace*" in New York. During the visit, he met with the UN Secretary-General, **H.E. Antonio Guterres**, the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ghana, **H.E. Ayorkor Botchwey**, and the President of the UN General Assembly, **H. E. Mr. Csaba Körösi**, on November 4. During Washington DC, he met several interlocutors in the US administration, including the Deputy Secretary of State, on November 9-10, and had discussions on various bilateral issues. FS also visited Myanmar on November 20-21 and held meetings with the senior leadership of Myanmar.

29. FOCs: In October, Foreign Office Consultations (FOCs) were held with Azerbaijan, Croatia, Gabon, Guyana, Iran, Kyrgyz Republic, Panama, Latvia, Morocco, Namibia, Norway, Romania, Venezuela, Uganda.

30. Other Multilateral engagements: India also participated in the fourth meeting of the Moscow Format Consultations on Afghanistan which was held in Moscow on November 16. Special Envoys/Senior Officials from Russia, China, Pakistan, Iran, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan also participated in the meeting.

31. Secretary (East) led the 4th India-Venezuela FOCs in Caracas; 2nd FOCs between India and Panama in Panama City; and the 4th round of India-Guyana FOCs in Georgetown on November 22-23 & 28, respectively. On November 25, Secretary (East) held bilateral discussions with the Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Colombia. Secretary (East) also addressed the Curtain Raiser

Event for the ASEAN-India Summit organized by RIS and the Cambodian Institute of Cooperation and Peace on November 4.

32. Secretary (CPV & OIA) paid an official visit to Morocco from November 22-25 to represent India at the 9th Global Forum of the UN Alliance of Civilizations (UNAOC) held in Fez on November 22-23. In Morocco, he also co-chaired the 5th round of India-Morocco FOCs. On the sidelines of UNAPC, Secretary (CPV & OIA) met the Foreign Minister of Yemen and the Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs of Egypt on November 23.

33. Secretary (West) led the Indian delegation for consultations on United Nations and multilateral issues with Russian Foreign Ministry officials in New Delhi on November 17 and co-chaired the 9th India-EU Foreign Policy & Security Consultations on November 22. He also led the 9th India-Norway FOCs in Oslo on November 3; the 10th India-Croatia FOCs in Zagreb on November 4; the 12th India-Kyrgyz Republic FOCs in Bishkek on November 14; the 5th India-Azerbaijan FOCs on November 28; and the 8th India-Latvia FOCs in New Delhi on November 29.

International Conferences:

34. The 7th Global Technology Summit, India's flagship conference on geotechnology was co-hosted by MEA and Carnegie India from November 29-December 1 in New Delhi. The theme of this year's summit was 'Geopolitics of Technology'.

Humanitarian Assistance:

35. Humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan: Medical Assistance to the people of Afghanistan: During this period 4000 Kg. of essential medicines and surgical items have been sent to Afghanistan as a part of humanitarian assistance to the people of Afghanistan.

36. Bhutan: The Wangduephodrang Dzong, which was destroyed in a fire in 2012, was reconstructed by India under the Project Tied Assistance funding of Rs 100 crores, and was consecrated by His Majesty the King on 11 November 2022.

37. A 150-foot bridge at Punakha built by India at 2.1 crores under the "High Impact Community Development Project" funding was inaugurated by Foreign Minister Dr Tandi Dorji on 12 November 2022.

38. Handing over of vehicles by the Government of India to Nepal for the conduct of elections: In a ceremony organized on 03 November 2022, India handed over 200 vehicles to Mr Janardan Sharma, Finance Minister of Nepal, as a gift of India for logistical support to various Nepali institutions for the conduct of elections. These vehicles were handed over at the request of the Government of Nepal for utilization during elections, of which 120 vehicles are for utilization by security forces and 80 vehicles are for the utilization by Election Commission of Nepal. The government of India has been extending support in the form of vehicles as per the request of the Government of Nepal in previous years as well, for the utilization by the Election Commission as well as the security forces of Nepal.

39. Papua New Guinea: On 3 November 2022, India extended assistance to the National Cultural Commission of **Papua New Guinea** for the procurement of IT equipment.

40. Tanzania: High Commission of India handed over 150 Ashok Leyland Vehicles to the Tanzania Police Force, supplied by Ashok Leyland under Exim Bank of India's Buyer's Credit of USD 29.6 million on 14 Nov 2022.

41. Counter-Terrorism: On November 11, Ambassador Ruchira Kamboj, Permanent Representative of India to the UN handed over a cheque of USD 500,000 to Mr. Valdimir Voronkov, Under Secretary General, UN Office of Counter-Terrorism, as India's voluntary financial contribution towards the Counter Terrorism Trust Fund.

MOUs

42. MoU between ACE and TERI: An MoU between the ASEAN Centre for Energy (ACE) and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) aimed at strengthening institutional linkages between ASEAN and India was signed on 9 November 2022.
