

Ministry of External Affairs
Policy Planning and Research Division

Overview of Major Achievements during the month of September 2022

Diplomatic Engagements and other Interactions:

1. **UK:** Hon'ble President visited UK on September 18-19 to attend the State Funeral of H.M. Queen Elizabeth II and offer condolences on behalf of the Government of India. Government of India also declared one-day national mourning on September 11 as a mark of respect. In London, Hon'ble President also met her Tanzanian counterpart and the Prime Minister of Bangladesh on September 19. Separately, PM held a telephonic conversation with his British counterpart on September 10.
2. **Uzbekistan SCO Summit:** At the invitation of the President of Uzbekistan, PM visited Samarkand, Uzbekistan on September 15-16 to attend the 22nd Meeting of the Council of Heads of State of the SCO. On the sidelines of the Summit, PM held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from Uzbekistan, Russia, Iran and Turkey. The city of Varanasi was nominated as the first ever SCO Tourism and Cultural Capital during the period 2022-2023 at the 22nd Meeting of SCO on September 16.
3. **Japan:** PM visited Japan on September 27 to attend the State Funeral of former Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. In Japan, PM also met his counterparts from Japan and Australia. Separately, EAM and RM paid an official visit to Japan for the second India-Japan 2+2 Ministerial Meeting from September 7-10. They also held an interaction with the Indian community in Tokyo.
4. **France:** PM met the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs in New Delhi on September 14. Separately, EAM also held a bilateral meeting with the French Minister.
5. **Bhutan:** PM met the King of Bhutan on September 14 in New Delhi. Separately, EAM called on the King of Bhutan on September 15.
6. **Singapore:** A Joint India-Singapore Ministerial delegation, comprising of Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister of Singapore and the Finance Minister of India, called on PM on September 19. EAM and the Finance Minister, along with their counterparts from Singapore, participated in the India-Singapore Ministerial delegation on September 17.
7. **Russia:** PM delivered remarks at the Plenary Session of 7th Eastern Economic Forum held in Vladivostok on September 7 in virtual mode.
8. **Norway:** PM held a telephone conversation with his counterpart from Norway on September 9.
9. **Namibia:** Eight Namibian Cheetahs (5 female and 3 male) arrived in India on September 16. The Cheetahs were released in the Kuno National Park, Madhya Pradesh by PM. This event marked the return of cheetahs to India.

10. **Bangladesh:** Prime Minister of Bangladesh paid a state visit to India from September 5-8. During her visit, she called on Hon'ble President, Vice President and held delegation level talks with PM. EAM called on Bangladesh's Prime Minister on September 5. Seven MOUs and agreements were signed during the visit.
11. **UAE:** EAM visited UAE to participate in the 14th India-UAE Joint Commission meeting held on September 2. During the visit, EAM called on the President of UAE, and spoke at the Anwar Gargash Diplomatic Academy on September 1. Two MOUs were signed during the visit.
12. **Saudi Arabia:** EAM visited Saudi Arabia from September 10-12. This was his first visit to the Kingdom as External Affairs Minister of India. During the visit, EAM co-chaired the inaugural Ministerial Meeting of the Committee on Political, Security, Social and Cultural Cooperation with the Foreign Minister of Saudi Arabia. He called on the Crown Prince on September 12, met other Saudi dignitaries as well as Secretary General of GCC (MOU on Mechanism of Consultations between India and GCC was signed), and interacted with the Indian community.
13. **USA:** EAM visited USA for the UNGA High Level Segment from September 18-28. His engagements in Washington D.C included bilateral meetings with the US Secretary of State; Secretary of Defense, Commerce Secretary, Director of National Intelligence; NSA; senior members of US Congress; meeting with USISPF; USIBC round-table; and interaction with the Indian Diaspora.
14. **Iran:** EAM held a telephonic conversation with the Foreign Minister of Iran on September 4.
15. **UNGA High Level Segment:** From September 18-28, EAM traveled to the United States to attend the High Level Segment at the 77th Session of the United Nations General Assembly and delivered India's statement at UNGA on September 24. During the visit, EAM hosted a Ministerial meeting of the G4; participated in plurilateral meetings of the Quad, IBSA, BRICS, India-CELAC, India-CARICOM Ministerial meeting and other trilateral formats, such as India-France-Australia, India-France-UAE and India-Indonesia-Australia; participated at the High Level Meeting of the L.69 Group on "Reinvigorating Multilateralism and Achieving Comprehensive Reform of the UN Security Council"; addressed a special event "India@75: Showcasing India UN Partnership in Action" on September 24; met the UN Secretary General and the 77th President of the General Assembly; and held bilateral meetings with Foreign Ministers of the G20 and UNSC member states among others.
16. **EAM's other engagements:** EAM's other engagements included his virtual address at the Australia-India Leadership Dialogue on September 6; meeting with the Managing Director of IMF on September 7; with the visiting Foreign Secretary of Nepal on September 14; his remarks at the Valedictory Function of the IFS Officer Trainees of 2021 batch & Bhutanese diplomats on September 13; his interaction with Mexican diplomats who attended the first special course conducted by SSIFS; his speech at the Award Ceremony of the Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman Student Scholarship on September 7.

17. **MoS (VM)'s engagements:** MoS (VM)'s engagements in the month of September included his visit to Kenya and Eritrea from September 13-15; his visit to Djibouti from September 21-22; and the virtual inauguration of Namaste Kuwait-2022 mega art festival on September 24.

18. **MoS(ML)'s engagements:** On September 27, MoS (ML) met the visiting Deputy Minister of Constitutional & Legal Affairs of Tanzania. She also attended the valedictory function of Mexican diplomats attending the special course at SSFIS on September 15.

19. **MoS (RRS)'s engagements:** MoS (RRS) visited Vietnam in September. During the visit, he met the Deputy Prime Minister of Vietnam on September 26; Party Secretary to Ho Chi Minh City on September 27; participated in the Horasis-India Economic Cooperation Forum held on September 25; and interacted with the Indian diaspora. In New Delhi, MoS(RRS) addressed a roundtable on business opportunities for North East Region on September 12; and met the Secretary General of IORA on September 30. The visit of Secretary General of IORA also gained significance as 2022 marks the 25th anniversary of IORA, of which India is a founding member.

20. **FS's engagements:** On September 13, FS met the Foreign Secretary of Nepal who visited India from September 13-14. FS also interacted with media from Seychelles and Sri Lanka on September 29, who were on a week-long familiarization visit to India.

21. **FOCs and other multilateral engagements:** In September, Foreign Office Consultations(FOCs) were held with Nigeria and Zimbabwe. Quad Senior Officials Meeting was held on September 5-6 in New Delhi. India-USA 2+2 inter-sessional meeting, and India-USA maritime security dialogue were also held during the month.

Humanitarian Aid/Assistance:

22. On September 12, India handed over the 12th consignment of humanitarian aid to Ukraine and 5000 tonnes of rice to Madagascar on September 7.

23. **Nepal:** India inaugurated a school building developed on grant assistance from Government of India in September.

24. **Fiji:** A Category 5 Cyclone-proof roadside stall built with GOI assistance was inaugurated by the Fijian Prime Minister in September.

25. **Niue:** India-Niue Centre of Excellence for Information Technology (CEIT) established by the Government of India was transferred to the Government of Niue in September.

MOUs/Agreements:

26. **Bangladesh:** During the visit of H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh, seven MoUs and Agreements were signed, related to Kushiyara River water sharing, Training of Bangladesh Railway Personnel, Collaboration in IT systems(Railways), Cooperation in Scientific and Technology field, Areas of Space Technology, Broadcasting and Training for Bangladesh Judicial Officers.

27. **UAE:** Two MOUs were signed during EAM's visit to UAE from August 21-September 2, namely, MOU between Wildlife Institute of India and International Fund for Houbara Conservation for the Conservation of the Great Indian Bustard and the Lesser Floricorn, and MOU between Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation of UAE and Indian Council for Cultural Relations (ICCR) on the Establishment of the India-UAE Cultural Council Forum.
28. **Djibouti:** An MoU between the diplomatic Institutes of the two countries and an agreement for visa waiver were signed during MoS(VM)'s visit to Djibouti from September 21-22.
29. **Egypt:** An MoU on Defense Cooperation was signed during Raksha Mantri's visit to Egypt on September 19-20.
30. **GCC:** An MoU on Mechanism of Consultations between India and GCC was signed during EAM's visit to Saudi Arabia from September 10-12.
31. **ISA:** In September, the International Solar Alliance (ISA) Agreement was ratified by USA and Bhutan.