

**Ministry of External Affairs  
Policy Planning and Research Division**

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**Overview of Major Achievements during the month of October 2022**

**Diplomatic Engagements and other Interactions:**

1. **Launch of Mission LiFE:** PM and the UN Secretary-General (UNSG) launched Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) at Kevadia, Gujarat on October 20. Leaders from 10 countries also sent video messages for the launch of Mission LiFE. EAM was also present at the launch, along with our Heads of Missions (HOMs). Before the launch, PM and UNSG held talks in Kevadia and paid tribute to Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at the Statue of Unity. EAM also met the UNSG on October 19.
2. **UK:** On October 27, PM held a telephone call with the newly appointed Prime Minister of the UK and congratulated him on his assumption of office.
3. **Ukraine:** On October 4, PM held a telephone call with the President of Ukraine and discussed the ongoing conflict in Ukraine and also touched upon important areas of bilateral cooperation.
4. **Qatar:** On October 29, PM held a telephone call with the Amir of Qatar and conveyed best wishes for a successful FIFA World Cup. Both leaders agreed to jointly celebrate 50 yrs of India-Qatar diplomatic relations in 2023.
5. **Australia:** EAM visited Australia and New Zealand from October 5-11. In Australia, EAM held the 13th Foreign Ministers' Framework Dialogue with his Australian counterpart. During his visit, he also met Australia's Defence Minister and interacted with the Australian Navy and think tanks.
6. **New Zealand:** In New Zealand, EAM called on New Zealand's Prime Minister, met with his counterpart and other Ministers, Parliamentarians and members of the Indian diaspora. EAM and the Prime Minister of New Zealand released India@75 postage stamps to commemorate and showcase Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
7. **Egypt:** EAM visited Egypt from October 15-16, during which he called on the President of Egypt; met with the Foreign Minister of Egypt and the Secretary General of the Arab League. EAM also addressed a meeting of the India-Egypt Business Forum and interacted with the Indian community.

8. **UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee:** India hosted the Special Meeting of the UN Security Council Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) in Mumbai and New Delhi on October 28-29. This was the first time the UNSC convened in India in any format. Heads of delegations of the United Nations Security Council CTC called on the Hon'ble President at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on October 29. On October 28, EAM spoke at the UNSC Special Meeting of the CTC in Mumbai and also delivered the keynote address at the plenary session of the Committee in New Delhi on October 29.

9. On the sidelines of the UNSC special meeting, EAM held bilateral meetings with his counterparts from the UK, Ghana, and Gabon and Deputy Foreign Ministers of UAE and Albania. EAM met the Foreign Minister of Botswana on October 19 in Kevadia in Gujarat.

10. **EAM's other engagements:** In October, EAM held telephonic calls with Foreign Ministers of Finland (October 5), The Gambia (October 13), Germany (October 22), the UK's Foreign Secretary (October 14 & 25), and the US Secretary of State (October 29).

11. EAM, along with MoS (VM) and the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh, launched the website for the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, which will be held from January 8-10, 2023, in Indore.

12. EAM's other engagements in the month included interactions with participants of the Raisina Forum for Future of Diplomacy on October 17 and delivering the keynote address at a conference of CCCS on "China's Foreign Policy and International Relations in the New Era" on October 18. On October 27, EAM launched the website and logo of the 12<sup>th</sup> World Hindi Conference that would be held in Fiji in February 2023.

13. **MOS(VM)'s engagements:** MoS (VM)'s engagements in the month of October included his official visit to Oman on October 3-4; his visit to the USA from October 6-9 to participate in the High-Level UN Security Council Debate on "Peace and Security in Africa: Strengthening the fight against the financing of armed groups and terrorists through the illicit trafficking of natural resources"; and his visit to Senegal to participate in the 8th edition of the Dakar International Forum on Peace and Security in Africa from October 24-25. In Senegal, he also interacted with the Foreign Ministers of Mali, Turkey, and The Gambia and the Acting Foreign Minister of Sudan on the sidelines of the Forum.

14. **MOS(ML)'s engagements:** MoS (ML) visited Georgia from October 10-11 and Kazakhstan on October 12-13, wherein she led the Indian delegation as the Prime Minister's Special Envoy to the 6th Summit of the Conference of Interaction and Confidence Building Measures in Asia (CICA). On the sidelines of the CICA Summit, MoS (ML) had bilateral meetings with senior dignitaries and Ministers

from other participating countries. MoS (ML) also interacted with the SCO National Coordinators at the start of their first meeting in India under India's Chairmanship on October 17.

15. **MOS(RRS)'s engagements:** MoS (RRS) addressed the concluding ceremony of the ASEAN-India Artists Camp, celebrated to mark 30 years of ASEAN-India relations on October 19 in Udaipur. On October 29, MoS (RRS) inaugurated a dialogue on 'Act East to Indo-Pacific: Role of North-east Indian States in Connecting the Connectivities' in Imphal, curated by Asian Confluence.

16. **FS's engagements:** On October 2-3, FS paid an official visit to the Maldives during which he called on the President and Defence Minister of Maldives; and held a bilateral meeting with his counterpart on October 2. On October 3, FS called on the Speaker of the People's Majlis of Maldives. On October 14, FS interacted with a 100-member Bangladesh Youth Delegation, which was on an 8-day-long visit to India. On October 18, FS interacted with a 17-member media delegation from Nepal, who were on a week-long familiarization visit to India covering New Delhi and Bangalore. FS also interacted with the participants of the Raisina Forum for Future of Diplomacy on October 10 and 16.

17. **FOCs:** In October, Foreign Office Consultations (FOCs) were held with Ethiopia, North Macedonia, Ireland and Portugal.

18. **Other Multilateral engagements:** The 5<sup>th</sup> Assembly of International Solar Alliance (ISA) was held in India from October 17-20. On October 18, an India-Africa Defence Dialogue (IADD) was held on the sidelines of DefExpo 2022 in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

19. In October, India was re-elected for membership of the International Telecom Union (ITU) Council for the term 2023-26. India was also re-elected for membership of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Council for the term 2022-2025.

20. Indian MP Aparajita Sarangi was elected to the post of Member of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Kigali, Rwanda securing 12 out of 18 votes. Separately, India's candidate, Ms. Revathi Mannepalli, was elected as a member of the Radio Regulation Board (RRB) of International Telecom Union for the term 2023-26.

### **Diplomatic Training:**

21. The 69th Professional Course for Foreign Diplomats was conducted at SSIFS from 03-28 October. A total of 46 Diplomats from 46 countries participated in the programme.

22. The first-ever Raisina Forum for Future of Diplomacy 2022 was held from October 10-20. The Forum brought together young diplomats from about 30 countries for a 10-day event.

**Humanitarian Assistance:**

23. **Afghanistan:** In continuation with our special relationship with the people of Afghanistan and given the urgent appeals made by the United Nations to assist the Afghan people, India supplied the thirteenth batch of medical assistance consisting of essential medicines and medical/surgical items to Afghanistan on October 11.

24. **Bhutan:** A 170 m bridge at Dhamdum River in Bhutan was inaugurated on 19 October. The reconstruction of the bridge, which suffered major damages in 2016 floods, was financed by India at a cost of Rs. 15.5 crores.

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