

International Developments

April 2025

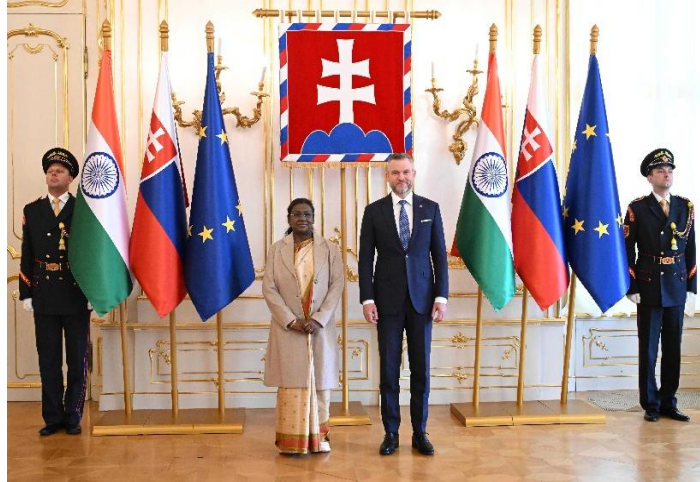


International Developments

Bilateral/Multilateral Engagements

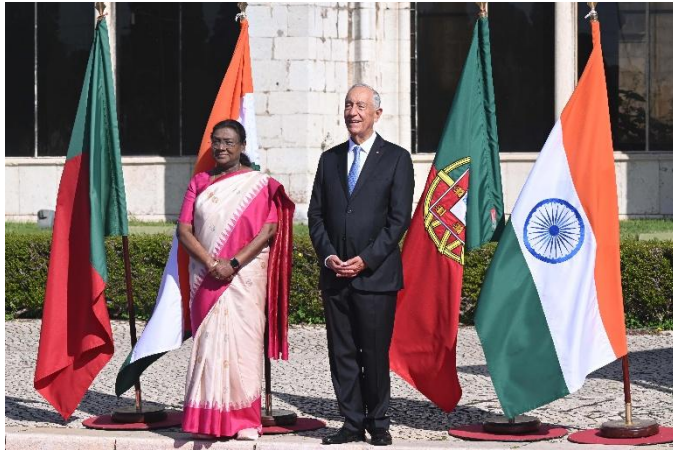
State visit of the President of India to the Slovak Republic: President Droupadi Murmu arrived in the Slovak Republic on April 9, marking the first Indian presidential visit to Slovakia in 29 years. Welcomed warmly by Slovak President H.E. Mr. Peter Pellegrini at the Presidential Palace, both leaders held extensive talks on strengthening bilateral ties and addressing global issues. President Murmu invited Slovakia to collaborate in India's growing media and creative industries and participate in the WAVE Summit in Mumbai. Two MoUs were signed on MSME cooperation and diplomatic training....

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State visit of the President of India to Portugal: On April 6, 2025, the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu arrived in Lisbon for a State Visit to Portugal — the first visit by an Indian President to the country in 27 years. She was given a warm welcome by the President of the Republic of Portugal, H.E. Mr. Marcelo Rebelo de Sousa, at the historic 'Praça do Império' in Lisbon. The two Presidents jointly unveiled commemorative postage stamps marking 50 years of diplomatic relations between India and Portugal....

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State visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid a State Visit to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia on April 22, 2025. He was warmly received by His Royal Highness Prince Mohammed bin Salman at the Royal Palace in Jeddah, where a ceremonial welcome was accorded. Both leaders held official talks and co-chaired the second meeting of the India–Saudi Arabia Strategic Partnership Council. They discussed collaboration in energy, defence, trade, investment, technology, culture, and people-to-people ties....

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State visit by Prime Minister of India to Sri Lanka: On April 5, Prime Minister Narendra Modi visited Colombo, receiving a ceremonial welcome at Independence Square. Sri Lankan President Anura Kumara Dissanayake conferred upon him the Sri Lanka Mitra Vibhushana—the nation’s highest honour for foreign leaders—making him the first Indian recipient. The leaders held in-depth talks on connectivity, development, defence, economy, and reconciliation. Emphasising Sri Lanka’s significance in India’s Neighbourhood First Policy and Vision MAHASAGAR, seven MoUs were exchanged...

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6th BIMSTEC SUMMIT
4 APRIL 2025 BANGKOK, THAILAND



6th BIMSTEC Summit, Thailand: Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the 6th BIMSTEC Summit hosted under Thailand’s Chairship. The Summit addressed shared regional goals amid global uncertainties. PM Modi underscored BIMSTEC’s strategic role in connecting South and Southeast Asia and promoting regional growth. He announced India-led Centres of Excellence in disaster management, maritime transport, traditional medicine, and agriculture, launched the BODHI skill development programme, and proposed a BIMSTEC Chamber of Commerce and an annual Business Summit...

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State visit by Prime Minister Narendra Modi to Thailand: On April 3, 2025, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Thai Prime Minister H.E. Paetongtarn Shinawatra in Bangkok during his official visit to Thailand. Received with a ceremonial welcome at the Government House, this marked their second meeting following their earlier interaction at the ASEAN Summit in October 2024. The leaders emphasised enhancing collaboration in connectivity, health, digital technology, education, and tourism. Key discussions included tackling transnational crimes. They witnessed the signing of a Strategic Partnership Declaration and MoUs in MSMEs, digital tech, maritime heritage, and handicrafts....

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Prime Minister Narendra Modi hosts J.D. Vance, Vice President of the U.S: On April 21, 2025, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met J.D. Vance, Vice President of the U.S. who was accompanied by Second Lady Mrs. Usha Vance, their children, and senior U.S. officials. The Prime Minister fondly recalled his February visit to Washington D.C. and discussions with President Trump, emphasising shared goals of MAGA and Viksit Bharat 2047. Both leaders reviewed progress in bilateral cooperation, especially on the India-U.S. Trade Agreement. They welcomed collaboration in defence, energy, and technology, and exchanged views on global and regional matters...

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State Visit of HH Sheikh Hamdan Bin Mohammed Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy PM & Defence Minister of UAE: HH Sheikh Hamdan bin Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Crown Prince of Dubai, Deputy Prime Minister, and Minister of Defence of the UAE, undertook his first official visit to India from April 8–9, 2025. Upon arrival in New Delhi, he received a ceremonial Guard of Honour. Prime Minister Modi hosted a working lunch at his residence. Discussions focused on strengthening the Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, encompassing trade, defence, and cultural ties. Eight MoUs were signed across sectors including infrastructure, healthcare, and education...

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State Visit of H.E. Mr. Gabriel Boric Font, President of Chile to India: Chilean President Gabriel Boric Font marked a State Visit to India from 1-5 April 2025. He was accompanied by a high-level delegation, including Ministers, Members of Parliament, senior officials, business associations, media and prominent Chileans involved in the India-Chile cultural connect. Both leaders agreed to begin talks for a Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement to boost economic ties. They identified key areas for collaboration, including minerals, energy, defence, space, and agriculture. Healthcare was noted as a growing opportunity, supported by Chile's interest in Yoga and Ayurveda...

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Trade and Investment

Indo-US tech ties: Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman met with senior executives in San Francisco to foster bilateral cooperation in technology, AI, energy, and digital infrastructure. Her discussions aimed to enhance investment collaborations between India and the US. She highlighted India's top global ranking in AI skill penetration and outlined a proposed Rs 1 lakh crore private sector-driven research scheme. Concluding her San Francisco visit, Sitharaman delivered a keynote address at Stanford University on India's development vision for 2047, framed under the Viksit Bharat initiative...

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MoS Pabitra Margherita Strengthens India-Malaysia Ties During Official Visit; Inaugurates India-ASEAN Tourism Pavilion: Shri Pabitra Margherita, Union Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, visited Malaysia from April 18–19, 2025. He inaugurated the India-ASEAN Tourism Pavilion at the MATTA Fair in Kuala Lumpur, part of the ASEAN-India Year of Tourism 2025, and met over 80 tourism professionals, including 45 from India. During the visit, he held bilateral meetings with key Malaysian ministers, reviewed progress on bilateral initiatives, and explored new areas of cooperation. He also interacted with Indian businesses and the diaspora...

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Strengthening Energy Cooperation: Union Minister Shri Manohar Lal's Visit to Nepal: Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, Shri Manohar Lal, visited Nepal on 22 April 2025 to strengthen India-Nepal energy cooperation. Joined by Nepal's Energy Minister Shri Dipak Khadka and senior officials, he reviewed key bilateral initiatives for regional connectivity and sustainable energy. At the 900 MW Arun-3 Hydroelectric Project in Sankhuwasabha, developed by SJVN Limited, he assessed progress on this symbol of strong India-Nepal hydropower collaboration...

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India's Vision at the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting - Strengthening Agri-Ties: Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, led the Indian delegation at the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting in Brazil, aiming to boost agricultural trade, technology, and innovation. He emphasised promoting soya production and exports in India and enabling farmers to benefit from global technologies. Representing India, he highlighted the need for stronger cooperation in agri-tech transfer, research, food processing, and trade to ensure global food security and farmer empowerment...

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BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministers Meet: India Reaffirms Commitment to Regional Cooperation: Union Minister for Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development, Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, attended the 3rd BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (BAMM) in Kathmandu, Nepal, on 9th April 2025. Shri Chouhan highlighted BIMSTEC's role in advancing India's 'Neighbourhood First' and 'Act East' policies, emphasizing shared history, culture, and regional agricultural cooperation...

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APEDA facilitates First Commercial Sea shipment of Indian pomegranates from Maharashtra to USA: In a milestone for India's fresh fruit exports, a commercial sea shipment of the premium Bhagwa variety of pomegranates has successfully reached New York. Marking India's entry into the competitive U.S. market, the 12.6-ton shipment followed a successful 60-day shelf life trial by APEDA and ICAR-NRCP. Facilitated by APEDA's USDA pre-clearance program and proactive planning, this initiative highlights India's growing global footprint in high-quality fruit exports....

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India hosts 8th Meeting of Joint Committee on ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement (AITIGA): India hosted the 8th AITIGA Joint Committee meeting to review the ASEAN-India Trade in Goods Agreement at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, from April 7–11, 2025, in a hybrid format. Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce, and Dr. Sugumari S. Shanmugam from Malaysia co-chaired the meeting. Delegates from all ten ASEAN member states participated, reaffirming their commitment to strengthening regional trade cooperation...

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Strengthening Bilateral Trade and Investment: Union Minister Shri Piyush Goyal Meets Italian Deputy Prime Minister Antonio Tajani: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal met Italian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister H.E. Antonio Tajani to discuss strengthening bilateral trade and investment ties. Emphasising shared democratic values, both leaders explored new avenues for economic cooperation. The meeting reinforced the longstanding relationship between India and Italy, built on mutual respect and common interests. They discussed ways to expand economic cooperation and explored new avenues to advance this partnership. This high-level engagement marks a significant step to advance the Joint Strategic Action Plan 2025–2029, agreed upon by the two Prime Ministers in November 2024, promoting smoother trade flows, nurturing investment opportunities, and achieving tangible outcomes...

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8th Session of India-Russia Working Group on Priority Investment Projects held in New Delhi: The 8th Session of the India-Russia Working Group on Priority Investment Projects (IRWG-PIP) convened in New Delhi on April 9, 2025, under the Intergovernmental Commission framework. Both nations signed a protocol identifying key strategic projects and agreed to incorporate six new initiatives aimed at enhancing bilateral investment. The meeting reviewed progress since the 7th session and reaffirmed a commitment to deepen economic cooperation across sectors of mutual interest. Discussions emphasized collaboration in infrastructure development, transport engineering, digital economy, and energy. Both sides highlighted the importance of facilitating investments through favorable fiscal regimes and joint ventures, particularly in the Russian Far East and India's industrial corridors. The session underscored the shared goal of achieving a bilateral trade volume exceeding USD 100 billion by 2030, reflecting a strategic partnership poised for significant growth...

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