

International Developments

December 2024



International Developments

Bilateral/Multilateral Engagements

State Visit of Prime Minister to Kuwait:

Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi paid an official visit to Kuwait on 21-22 December 2024. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held bilateral talks with His Highness Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah, Prime Minister of the State of Kuwait. Shri Narendra Modi has received Kuwait's highest national award and discussed enhanced cooperation in various sectors, including defence, investment, and energy. Agreements were signed, including one on defence cooperation and Kuwait joining the International Solar Alliance...

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State visit of President of Sri Lanka to

India: President of Sri Lanka, H.E. Mr. Anura Kumara Disanayaka on a State Visit to India from 15-17 December 2024. The visit outlining a wide range of collaborative initiatives, from energy partnerships to regional security cooperation. India's decision to supply liquefied natural gas (LNG) to Sri Lanka and partner in renewable energy projects reflects an ongoing commitment to help Sri Lanka diversify its energy sources. A major announcement was the agreement to build an energy pipeline connecting the two countries, a project that will also involve the United Arab Emirates...

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Visit of His Majesty The King of Bhutan to

India: The King of Bhutan, His Majesty Jigme Khesar Namgyel Wangchuck, and The Queen of Bhutan, Her Majesty Jetsun Pema Wangchuck, paid an official visit to India from 05-06 December 2024. During the visit, His Majesty The King of Bhutan and Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held discussions covering the entire gamut of bilateral cooperation and regional and global issues of mutual interest. They expressed satisfaction that the 1020 MW Punatshangchhu-II hydro power project was nearing completion, and looked forward to its commissioning in the near future...

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India's Engagements with International Organisations

Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a USD 350 million policy-based loan under the second subprogram of Strengthening Multimodal and Integrated Logistics Ecosystem (SMILE) program: The SMILE program is a programmatic policy-based loan (PBL) to support the government in undertaking wide-ranging reforms in the logistics sector in India. The programmatic approach comprises two subprograms, which aim to expand India's manufacturing sector and improve the resilience of its supply chains. The program establishes and operationalizes a comprehensive policy framework to enhance logistics efficiency...

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Government of India and ADB signed a USD 50 million loan for climate-adaptive water harvesting project in Meghalaya: The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a USD 50 million loan aimed at enhancing water security by constructing water-harvesting systems to improve access to water and reducing community vulnerability against climate change impacts in Meghalaya. The project aligns with the Meghalaya State Water Policy (MSWP) 2019, which seeks to achieve sustainable development, management, and utilisation of the state's water resources through a participatory approach, reduce vulnerability, and promote integrated water resource management...

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World Bank approved USD 800 million loan for Amaravati Development Programme: The World Bank approved loan of USD 800 million for Amaravati Integrated Urban Development Program aimed at establishing the city as a well-managed, climate-resilient growth center in Andhra Pradesh that generates jobs and improves the lives of its current and future residents, especially the most vulnerable. The Program will support an accountable and effective city management structure for Amaravati that integrates citizen engagement and participation in city planning and development. Extensive consultation efforts with communities will continue during project implementation...

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Government of India and ADB signed USD 98 million loan to promote plant health management in India's horticulture: The Government of India and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a USD 98 million loan to improve horticulture crop farmers' access to certified disease-free planting materials, which will boost their crops' yield, quality, and resilience to climate impacts. The project supports the Government of India's Atmanirbhar Clean Plant Programme (CPP) that enhances plant health management. It will help develop regulatory framework and institutional systems to effectively implement the CPP for horticulture in India...

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Trade and Investment

India participated in the 2nd meeting of the Supply Chain Council (SCC): India participated in the 2nd meeting of the Supply Chain Council as vice-chair on 12th December 2024 and was represented by Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce. Out of six key areas identified by the Council as focus areas, India recognizes health care/pharmaceutical sector as very crucial from the perspective of achieving the goal of resilient supply chains in the sector, keeping its criticality. Collaborative efforts such as APT could play a pivotal role in reducing vulnerability on import dependency for Active Pharmaceutical Ingredients (APIs)/medical devices. These efforts are also expected to strengthen our domestic manufacturing through sharing of best practices, technical know-how, technology transfer, up-skilling and re-skilling etc., ensuring that pharmaceutical and healthcare supplies are resilient...

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India-Australia CCEA stocktake visit concluded in Delhi: The 3-day stocktake visit for the India-Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) concluded in New Delhi on 6th December, 2024. It was a crucial step in strengthening the trade and strategic partnership between the two nations. The stocktake discussions covered several critical areas of the CECA, including trade in goods, services, mobility, agri-tech cooperation, and more. Both sides emphasized their shared commitment to ensuring that the CECA delivers meaningful benefits and a balanced outcome for both countries. The discussions also centered on market access modalities that align with India's food security objectives...

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Commerce and Industry Minister's meeting with H.E. Sophie Primas, Minister Delegate of France for Trade and French Nationals Abroad: On 27th November 2024, the Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal held discussions with H.E. Ms. Sophie Primas, Minister Delegate of France for Foreign Trade and French Nationals Abroad on trade, investment and other issues of mutual interest. The two Ministers also attended the inauguration of French Foreign Trade Advisors' Asia Pacific Forum (APAC) 2024. The Commerce and Industry Minister highlighted the issues faced by the Indian exporters arising due to EU's green economy measures such as Carbon Border Adjustment Mechanism (CBAM) and EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR) to the French counterpart...

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