

International Developments

September 2024



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Bilateral/Multilateral Engagements

79th U.N. General Assembly, 2024: On 23rd September 2024, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed and participated in the 'Summit of the Future' at the United Nations in New York. This Summit aimed to reaffirm commitments to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the United Nations Charter while enhancing cooperation and laying the foundations for a reinvigorated multilateral system. The Summit concluded with the adoption of an outcome document - A Pact for the Future, along with two annexes, Global Digital Compact and A Declaration on Future Generations...

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Quad Leaders' Summit: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the sixth Quad Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, Delaware on 21 September 2024, hosted by the President of the United States of America, H.E. Mr. Joseph R. Biden, Jr. Prime Minister of Australia, H.E. Mr. Anthony Albanese and Prime Minister of Japan, H.E. Mr. Fumio Kishida also participated. All Quad governments have institutionalized the Quad at all levels and across a diverse array of departments and agencies. At the summit, Quad Leaders announced new initiatives to solidify these habits of cooperation and to set up the Quad to endure for the long-term...

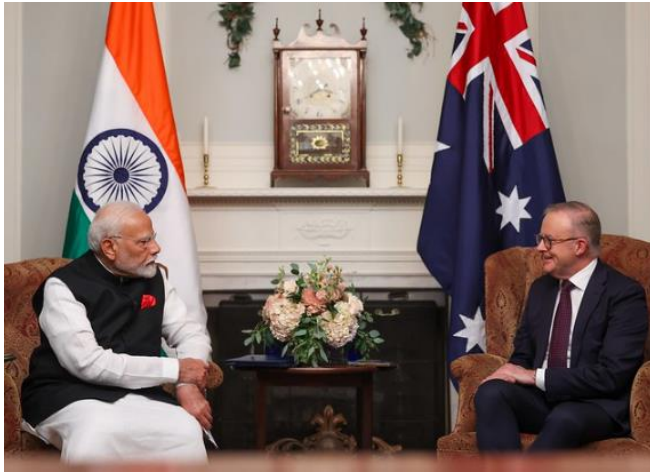
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Visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to the United States of America: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met United States President Joseph R. Biden on 21st September 2024. The Leaders commended the progress that has made the U.S.-India Major Defense Partnership a pillar of global security and peace, highlighting the benefits of increased operational coordination, information-sharing, and defense industrial innovation. The Leaders recommitted to expand the manufacturing and deployment of clean energy, including finding opportunities to expand U.S.-India cooperation in solar, wind and nuclear energy and the development of small modular reactor technologies...

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Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi meeting with the Prime Minister of Australia: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and Prime Minister of Australia H.E. Mr. Anthony Albanese met on the sidelines of the 6th Quad Leaders' Summit in Wilmington, USA. This was their ninth in-person interaction since May 2022. The two leaders discussed strengthening bilateral cooperation across a wide range of areas such as political and strategic, defence and security, trade and investments, education and research, climate change and renewable energy, and people-to-people ties...

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Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held meeting with Prime Minister of Japan: Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi met H.E. Mr. Fumio Kishida, Prime Minister of Japan in USA on 21st September 2024 on the sidelines of Quad Leaders' Summit, in Wilmington, Delaware. The two leaders noted that the India-Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership is in its 10th year and expressed satisfaction at the progress made in the relationship. The leaders reviewed the multi-faceted relationship between the two countries and exchanged views to deepen cooperation further, including defense and security ties and B2B and P2P collaborations...



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Official Visit of His Highness Sheikh Khalid bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, the Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi to India: His Highness Sheikh Khaled bin Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi is on an official visit to India from 9-10 September 2024. The Crown Prince held bilateral discussions with Prime Minister of India. They acknowledged that the success of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA) and the recent entry into force of the Bilateral Investment Treaty (BIT) will provide further impetus to the strong economic and commercial partnership between the two countries. Several MoUs/Agreements were signed during the visit, which set the stage for enhancing cooperation in traditional as well as new areas of cooperation...

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Official visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Singapore: Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of India, paid an Official Visit to Singapore on 04-05 September 2024. Both Prime Ministers welcomed the second meeting of India - Singapore Ministerial Roundtable (ISMR) held last month in Singapore. India and Singapore strengthened their ties with the exchange of four significant Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) during Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the island nation. The MoUs cover collaboration in digital technologies, the semiconductor sector, health and medicine, and education and skills development...

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Official visit of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to Brunei Darussalam: Shri Narendra Modi, Prime Minister of the Republic of India undertook an Official Visit to Brunei Darussalam during 3 to 4 September 2024. This was Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's first visit as well as the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Brunei Darussalam. Both leaders held discussions for enhancing cooperation on a wide range of issues including defence, connectivity, trade and investment, energy including renewables, space, ICT, health and pharmaceuticals, education and capacity building, culture, tourism, youth and people-to-people exchanges, as well as regional and international issues of mutual interest...

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Trade and Investment

Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated Invest India's Singapore Office: Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal inaugurated Invest India's new office in Singapore. The Singapore Office is Invest India's first overseas office. This significant move reinforces India's commitment to deepening investment partnerships and making it easier for global investors to engage with India. The Singapore office will serve as a dedicated point of contact for companies from the region looking to invest in India, fostering collaboration across sectors...

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India climbs one position to 39th rank in Global Innovation Index 2024: India is now among the top 40 countries in the Global Innovation Index (GII) for the first time, moving up one place to the 39th rank out of 133 economies in the world. This was confirmed in a report released by the Geneva-based World Intellectual Property Organization. With this, India continues to remain at the top among the 10 economies in Central and Southern Asia and also 1st among lower-middle-income economies. Notably, India was at 40th place in last year's Global Innovation Index rankings...

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India signs first-of-its-kind agreements focused on Clean Economy, Fair Economy, and the IPEF Overarching arrangement under Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for prosperity: The Agreement on Clean Economy intends to promote technical cooperation, workforce development, capacity building, and research collaborations; and collaborate to facilitate development, access, and deployment of clean energy and climate-friendly technologies with the aim to collectively accelerate efforts of IPEF partners towards energy security and transition, climate resilience and adaptation and GHG emissions mitigation. IPEF Fair Economy Agreement aims to create a more transparent and predictable trade and investment environment across the Indo-Pacific. To achieve these goals, the IPEF partners will collaborate to enhance their efforts in preventing and combating corruption, including bribery, and supporting initiatives to improve tax transparency, the exchange of information, domestic resource mobilization, and tax administration...

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Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal participated in 12th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers Meeting in Lao PDR: Shri Piyush Goyal, Minister of Commerce and Industry participated in the 12th East Asia Summit Economic Ministers' Meeting (EAS EMM) on 21st September, 2024. The Economic Ministers discussed regional and global economic developments and challenges. During the day, Minister had a number of bilateral meetings and other engagements alongside the 12th EAS EMM. The day started with a bilateral meeting with H.E. Dr. Kan Zaw, Minister of Investment and Foreign Economic Relations, Myanmar wherein both sides discussed potential cooperation areas in trade and the ongoing AITIGA review negotiations...

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Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal co-chairs 21st ASEAN-India Economic Ministers meeting in Lao PDR: Shri Piyush Goyal, Commerce and Industry Minister during the 1st day of his visit to Vientiane, Lao PDR (20th September, 2024) co-chaired the 21st ASEAN-India Economic Ministers (AEM-India) meeting alongwith H.E. Malaithong Kommasith, Minister of Industry and Commerce of Lao PDR. The Ministers reviewed the trade and investment relations between India and ASEAN and reaffirmed their commitment to further strengthen the relations. India and ASEAN registered a bilateral trade of USD 120.9 billion in 2023-24 with ASEAN accounting for 10.9% of India's global trade...

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Shri Piyush Goyal chairs inter-ministerial meeting to address rising freight cost, shipping delays, shortage & non-availability of containers and congestion at the ports: The Union Minister announced that Container Corporation of India (CONCOR) has decided to allow empty containers to be stored for a period of 90 days in the yard at the Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA) free of cost and has also slashed the loading and handling charges significantly...

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Commerce and Industry Minister Shri Piyush Goyal chaired the 3rd Board of Trade Meeting: Union Minister of Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal, chaired the third meeting of the reconstituted Board of Trade on 13th September 2024 at Mumbai. Shri Piyush Goyal reaffirmed the government's commitment to drive economic growth through robust partnerships with state governments. Minister launched the Department of Commerce's Jan Sunwai Portal, designed to streamline communication between stakeholders and authorities, providing a direct and transparent channel for addressing trade and industry-related issues. Shri Piyush Goyal also inaugurated ECGC's new online service portal, alongside a revamped in-house SMILE-ERP system. These innovations mark a significant leap towards paperless processing and faceless service delivery, benefiting both exporters and banks...

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APEDA facilitates first consignment of Indian Pomegranates from Mumbai to Melbourne: The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) facilitated the first consignment of Indian pomegranates from Mumbai to Melbourne, Australia, on August 31, 2024. This successful export not only underscores India's capabilities in meeting global quality standards but also provides a significant boost to Indian farmers by opening up new revenue streams. The consignment was successfully cleared in Melbourne and was showcased at Fine Food Australia 2024 at the APEDA India pavilion, further highlighting the global appeal of Indian pomegranates...

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APEDA to promote alcoholic beverage exports as a part of 'Make in India' initiative: The global demand for Indian spirits is increasing, presenting an opportunity for growth. The Agricultural and Processed Food Export Development Authority (APEDA) plans to promote both the Indian alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages globally with a target of USD 1 billion in export revenue over the next few years. APEDA as part of the 'Make in India' initiative has been targeting to increase exports of Indian Spirits to major foreign destinations. India currently ranks 40th in the world for alcoholic beverage exports...

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DGFT updates the SCOMET List with recent policy changes and updates in the multilateral export control regimes: Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry, has notified the updated SCOMET list for the year 2024. India's export control list (SCOMET) has been updated, incorporating the recent changes /updates in the control lists of the multilateral export control regimes, and certain policy amendments in our national system, on the basis of inputs from relevant government organizations and stakeholders. With the recent update, DGFT has also authorized the Department of Defence Production (DDP), MoD, to be the licensing authority for export of all items falling under Category 6 of SCOMET for military end use, streamlining certain exclusions existing earlier...

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