

BREAKTHROUGH DIPLOMACY

NEW VISION
NEW VIGOUR

PROLOGUE

INTERACTIVE OVERVIEW*

PM'S VISITS

EAM'S VISITS

DIPLOMATIC DOCUMENTS

[*CLICK ABOVE TO EXPLORE]

INCOMING VISITS

BREAKTHROUGH DIPLOMACY

NEW VISION NEW VIGOUR

India's government led by Prime Minister Sh. Narendra Modi has given a place of special significance to our foreign policy and diplomatic out-reach. Revitalizing traditional ties, re-setting strategic relations and reaching out to Indians abroad have been primary to India's diplomatic efforts.

In keeping with the government's diplomatic priority of **'Neighbourhood First'**, the Prime Minister invited leaders of all SAARC countries



for the oath-taking ceremony in May 2014. Prime Minister then travelled to Bhutan and Nepal; our two northern neighbours and traditional friends, for his first two visits abroad. I, as the External Affairs Minister, have already visited five of our seven South Asian neighbours and hosted the Sri Lankan External Affairs Minister at home. At times of agony and pain, we have reached out to Pakistan.



The recent engagements with our South Asian neighbours; be it bilateral- 'Operation Neer', when Maldives

crisis, the support for a national memorial at the site of the gift of the largest national flag to the people of Afghanistan as a symbol of India's commitment to our neighbour's unity and stability, helping to re-open the Colombo-Jaffna rail link after 24 years and 'Made in India' defense exports to



Nepal, Maldives, Mauritius; or multilateral- the SAARC satellite by 2016; they are all a reflection of our Government's vision of India's shared future as an integral part of a peaceful, secure and prosperous comity of nations in South Asia,

and the world beyond.

Prime Minister- through his historic address to the Constituent Assembly of Nepal; and his healing words at the Parliament in Fiji; a society which just held their first elections without 'separate electoral rolls' and his epoch making 'B4B' speech to the fledgling Parliamentary democracy in Bhutan; has made it clear that India continues to shine brightly as a beacon of hope for democracy across the world.



Prime Minister's first bilateral visit outside the sub-continent to Japan, the first visit by the present Chinese President to India, multilateral engagements in Myanmar at ASEAN-EAS Summits and bilateral visit to Australia as well as active participation at the G-20 Summit in Brisbane, the first ever Forum for India-Pacific Islands Co-operation (FIPIC) plus three high level diplomatic engagements with Vietnam, exchange of several Ministerial visits with Singapore and my recent visit to Republic of Korea, taken together, have activated India's 'Act East' policy.



Summit Level engagements with Strategic Partners like United States and Russia with major substantive outcomes, were a major part of our diplomatic success story of the past six months.

India's engagement with West Asia- our traditional partners; reflected in Prime Minister's recent meetings with the Crown Prince of Saudi Arabia and the Prime Minister of Israel and my own visits to Bahrain and UAE, have been intense and wide-ranging. On 24 November, on the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian people, Prime Minister re-affirmed India's continued support for the cause of Palestine. As 2014 draws to an end, the uncertainty about the fate of 39 Indians in Iraq continues to weigh deeply on all of us. Our efforts will continue unabated.

The Indian Diaspora, thanks to our unprecedented diplomatic outreach, felt connected to India like never before!



While Prime Minister addressed major gatherings in New York and Sydney; I travelled to the United Kingdom for the regional



Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, and to Mauritius for the 180th Anniversary commemoration of the 'Arrival of the Girmityas (Indentured Labour)'.

Wherever Indian citizens were in peril, from Libya and Iraq to Sydney in Australia and Lugansk in Ukraine, our Government was right besides them to re-assure, rescue and bring them back home safely. Over the past six months, we have successfully secured the release of more than 550 Indian fishermen from the Sri Lankan jails.

Multilateral engagements provided platforms to bring the economic underpinnings of our foreign policy to the forefront.

At the BRICS Summit in July, we laid the foundation for a New Development Bank meant to cater to the needs of the developing world. An Indian will be the first President of this unique new initiative.

At the heart of India's international engagements have been efforts to promote cooperation on skill development; advanced medical research for diseases like the agreement on research for malaria and TB with



the United States; food security, such as our work with Australia on agricultural research; education, such as the collaboration with the United States on a new generation Indian Institute of Technology. Kyoto–Varanasi, Ahmedabad–Guangzhou and Mumbai–Shanghai city twinning arrangements, high-speed rail links across Indian metros, the agreement with the United States on developing three smart cities; will all provide impetus to India’s rapid urbanization.

Indian culture and ethos has been gaining new global recognition. On 11 December 2014, United Nations, with an unprecedented 177 countries as ‘co-sponsors’, took the historic decision to declare 21 June as ‘International Yoga Day’.

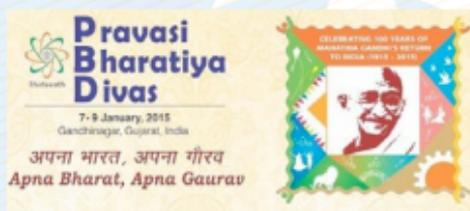


In June, India and China; jointly brought out an ‘Encyclopedia of Cultural Contacts’; a historic initiative to chronicle the millennia old civilizational ties between our two countries.

Indian diplomacy, for timely dissemination of information, has harnessed technology-

particularly social and new media platforms; and is working to streamline and speed up the passport-issuance process.

2014 has truly been a Year of **Breakthrough Diplomacy**. India's star is today shining ever brighter on the global firmament. This booklet highlights the expanded canvas of our diplomatic discourse.



Pravasi Bharatiya Divas, coinciding with the centenary

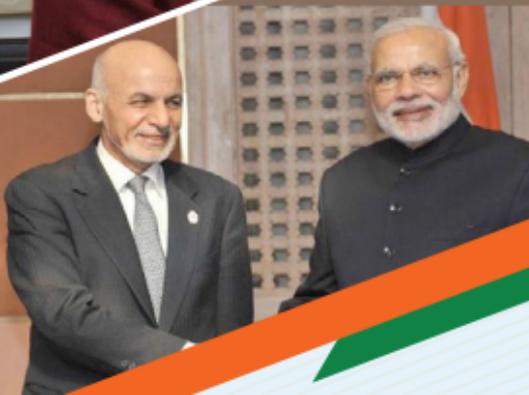
of Mahatma Gandhi's return to India, scheduled visit of President Obama to India for the Republic Day, plans for the largest ever India-Africa Summit and new steps to 'Link West'; all promise to make 2015 an even more grand affair! With **'Diplomacy for Development'** as the overarching theme of our global engagements in 2015, we will pursue the vision of a Rising India, with new vigour and even greater resolve.

Sushma Swaraj
External Affairs Minister



THE NEW MANTRA

'NEIGHBOURHOOD FIRST'





NEIGHBOURS



ECONOMY

- India announced financial assistance of Nu/Rs. 45 billion to Bhutan under the 11th Five Year Plan and Nu/Rs. 5 billion as Economic Stimulus Plan.
- Bhutan exempted from the ban on export of milk powder, wheat, edible oil, pulses and non-basmati rice.



DIPLOMACY

- Prime Minister's first foreign visit was to Bhutan. This was followed by the visit of the President within a short span of time, signaling a "very special" relationship.



BHUTAN

library in Bhutan was taken, which will provide access to 2 million books and periodicals to Bhutanese youth.



EDUCATION

- Rs. 348.72 crore assistance for Bhutan's School Reform Programme announced.
- **Nehru-Wangchuk Scholarship** doubled to Rs 2 crore per annum.
- Foundation Stone laid for Bhutan's first Power Training Institute with an assistance of Rs. 33.7 crores from India.
- Bhutan became a signatory to the MoU on **Nalanda University**.
- A decision to set up a digital



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Energy target of 10,000 MW of hydropower generation reiterated.
- Foundation stone laid for the 600 MW **Kholongchu Hydro-electric project**.
- India extended Rs 46.3 crore as assistance for double-laning of the Northern East- West Lateral Highway.
- Supreme Court building of Bhutan, constructed with Indian aid, inaugurated.



Photos
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Snapshot
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DIPLOMACY

- In July 2014, External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj revived the **India-Nepal Joint Commission** after 23 years.
- First bilateral visit in 17 years by an Indian PM took place when PM Modi visited Nepal in August 2014. He made a second visit in November for the SAARC Summit.



DEFENCE

- India handed over Advanced Light Helicopters '**Dhruva**' **Mark III** to the Nepalese Army.



ECONOMY

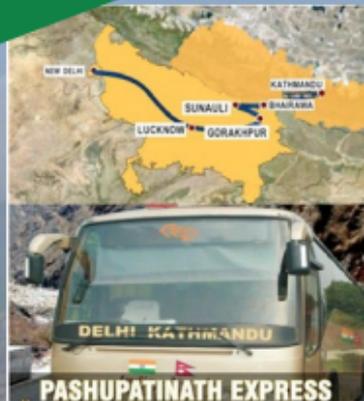
- India announced an additional USD 1 billion Line of Credit to Nepal.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- An Agreement on '**Electric Power Trade**, Cross-Border Transmission Interconnection and Grid connectivity' was signed on 21 October 2014.

NEIGHBOURS





NEPAL

- An agreement was reached to expedite the 6,720 MW **Pancheshwar Multipurpose Development Project** pending for over 17 years.
- Project Development Agreement (PDA) was signed between Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam and the Investment Board of Nepal for the 900 MW Arun-III project; another PDA inked for the 900 MW Upper Karnali project.
- Emergency and Trauma Centre facility with 200 beds was inaugurated in Kathmandu.
- A Motor Vehicle Agreement was signed and **Delhi-Kathmandu Pashupatinath Express** bus service was also launched.
- MoU on the construction of Rs 550 crore National Police Academy was signed.
- MoU on sister-city arrangements was signed between
 - Ayodhya-Janakpur
 - Bodh Gaya - Lumbini
 - Varanasi - Kathmandu



Photos

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Videos



Snapshot

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NEIGHBOURS



DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister visited Bangladesh in June 2014 on her first stand-alone visit.
- India-Bangladesh held 3rd meeting of India-

Bangladesh Joint Commission in New Delhi.

- The frequency of Dhaka-Kolkata Maitree Express increased.
- It was proposed to give 5-year multiple entry visas to Bangladeshi citizens aged below 13 years and above 65 years.



BANGLADESH



EDUCATION

- Training slots under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation Programme (ITEC) increased from 185 to 215.
- India to facilitate the establishment of Bangladesh Bhaban at Shanti Niketan.
- Bangladesh became a signatory to the MoU on Nalanda University.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- India decided to sell additional 100 MW electricity to Bangladesh from the Palatana Project in Tripura
- The route survey of the Guwahati-Dhaka bus service initiated.
- Bangladesh allowed India to ferry food grains to the landlocked northeastern state of Tripura using its territory and infrastructure.
- Decision on opening four more border haats in Meghalaya.
- Bangladesh offered a Special Economic Zone for Indian companies to set up industries.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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NEIGHBOURS



DIPLOMACY

- Frequent high-level meetings between the PM Modi and President Rajapaksa on the margins of various multilateral meetings.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



SRI LANKA



INFRASTRUCTURE

- **Five Indian fishermen facing the death sentence in Sri Lanka released unconditionally.** After sustained efforts of the government, including at the highest level, the President of Sri Lanka granted full remission of the sentence of all five fishermen.
- More than 550 Indian fishermen have been released since the new government took office.
- Inauguration of 38 km long **Pallai-Jaffna railway line** reconstructed in Sri Lanka under a concessional credit line of US\$ 800 million provided by India.
- Review of development projects, especially the Housing project, by India in the Northern & Eastern Provinces.



CULTURE

- Special commemorative **stamp on Sri Lankan Buddhist monk Anagarika Dharmapala**, released by the President of India.



DIPLOMACY

- Less than 24 hours after receiving a request from Maldives Foreign Minister to the External Affairs Minister, India undertook **Operation Neer** to help Male after its water treatment plant was destroyed in a blaze. IAF transport aircraft and naval vessels ferried drinking water.

NEIGHBOURS



MALDIVES



Photos

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NEIGHBOURS



DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister visited Kabul to participate in the inauguration of 207

feet tall flagpole gifted to Afghanistan as a symbol of its national unity. India promised USD 1 million to develop the site around it as a national monument.



AFGHANISTAN

- New Indian embassy and Chancery Complex in Kabul inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.
- PM Modi and President Ashraf Ghani had a detailed discussion on margins of SAARC summit. President Ghani to visit India early in 2015.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot
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NEIGHBOURS



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PAKISTAN

- India reached out to Pakistan in times of its agony and pain.
- Following the barbaric terrorist attack in Peshawar, **PM Narendra Modi telephoned Prime Minister Nawaz Sharif**. He condemned the attack in the strongest terms, spoke to Pakistan's Prime Minister and told him that this moment of shared pain and mourning is also a call for the two countries and all those who believe in humanity to join hands to decisively and comprehensively defeat terrorism.



FRESH IMPETUS TO

BILATERAL TIES





DIPLOMACY

- Regular meetings at the highest levels marked bilateral engagement.
- Foreign Minister Wang Yi, President Xi Jinping's 'Special Envoy', was among the first Foreign Ministers to visit India.
- **President Xi Jinping was the first Chinese President to visit India since 2005.**
- PM Modi also met President Xi Jinping at the BRICS Summit & G-20, and the Chinese Premier Li Keqiang at the East Asia Summit.



ECONOMY

- Issue of huge trade imbalance with China discussed.
- A USD 6.8 billion deal permitting China to establish two industrial parks in Gujarat and Maharashtra inked.
- A Five-Year Trade and

Economic Development Plan with China signed.

- **China agreed to invest US\$ 20 billion in India** in the next five years.
- Enhanced cooperation in the railway sector, including studying the feasibility of cooperation in high-speed trains.
- Mutual administrative assistance and co-operation in customs.



SPACE

- An MoU for cooperation in the peaceful use of space inked.

P5 COUNTRIES



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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CHINA



CULTURE

- Agreement to open additional motorable route for pilgrims undertaking the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra for the benefit of older Indian pilgrims
- The two countries agreed

to launch the India-China Cultural Exchange Initiative to promote cultural contacts.

- The year 2015 to be observed as 'Visit India Year' and 2016 as 'Visit China Year'.
- An agreement on audio-visual co-production between the two governments was signed.
- An India-China Encyclopedia of Cultural contacts was launched.



P5 COUNTRIES



DIPLOMACY

- 15th annual India-Russia Summit was held in New Delhi. PM Modi and Russian President Vladimir Putin laid out the roadmap for bilateral relations in the joint statement: '**Druzhba-Dosti**: A Vision for Strengthening the Indian-Russian Partnership over the Next Decade.'



DEFENCE

- Indian armed forces personnel to be trained in Russian military educational establishments.
- Russia has proposed to assemble up to 400 Mi-17 medium lift and Kamov Ka-226 light utility helicopters in India every year, a major boost to the 'Make in India' campaign.

RUSSIA



ECONOMY

- India and Russia decided to begin negotiations between India and the Customs Union of Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan for trade in goods and services, and free flow of investments.
- Russia agreed to build at least 12 more nuclear reactors in the next two decades to help India meet its energy needs.
- Bilateral diamond trade to get a boost through diamond exchanges in India, and direct export of raw diamonds from Russia to India.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- A 'Smart City' to be established in India with the help of Russian company Sistema.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- A Group of telecommunication satellites, NextStar, to be launched on low-cost platforms.
- Joint cooperation agreement was signed between Indian company National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC) and Russian company ACRON to develop potassium and magnesium deposits in Russia.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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P5 COUNTRIES



DIPLOMACY

- Foreign Minister Laurent Fabius visited India in June.
- PM Modi also met French President Francois Hollande on the margins of the G20 summit.

FRANCE



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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P5 COUNTRIES



Photos



Videos



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UNITED KINGDOM



DIPLOMACY

- In July, External Affairs Minister hosted former UK Foreign Secretary William Hague in New Delhi. She met the new Foreign Secretary Philip Hammond on the margins of the UN General Assembly.
- External Affairs Minister also visited London and met UK Deputy Prime Minister Nick Clegg
- British PM David Cameron met PM Modi at the G-20 Summit; described relations with India as amongst the top priorities in UK's foreign policy.
- The British trade office in Ahmedabad was upgraded to a Deputy High Commission.
- Mahatma Gandhi's statue to be installed in London's Parliament Square.



DIPLOMACY

- PM Modi visited USA from September 26-30, 2014.
- PM Modi & President Obama released a US-India vision statement entitled: '**Chalein Saath Saath**' – Forward Together we go'.
- Efforts to combat terrorism, proliferation of Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMDs), nuclear terrorism, cross-border crime, and the misuse of the Internet for spreading terror was discussed between the two leaders.



DEFENCE

- Framework Agreement for India-US defence cooperation to be renewed for further 10 years.
- US to cooperate as knowledge partner for India's planned National Defence University.



ECONOMY

- India and the US have decided to boost bilateral trade five-fold from the

current USD 100 billion to USD 500 billion.

- India-US Investment initiative, with a special focus on facilitating FDI and financing of infrastructure, was launched.



EDUCATION

- Global Initiative of Academic Networks will bring up to 1,000 teachers annually from the top 100 US universities to teach in Indian central varsities.
- US to partner in establishing India's new AIIMS-National Cancer Institute.



ENERGY

- **US Exim Bank will provide US \$ 1 Billion loans to finance U.S.** technologies, products and services utilized during commercial development activities within the clean energy sector in India.



P5 COUNTRIES

UNITED STATES



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Cities of Allahabad, Ajmer and Vishakhapatnam to be developed as 'Smart Cities' with the help of US companies.



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Proton Accelerator Project with Fermilab and Indian membership in

the Thirty Meter Telescope consortium concluded. An Inter-Agency Working Group was created to speed up deployment of US-origin nuclear reactors in India.



SPACE

- A joint working group to be constituted for collaboration on Mars exploration.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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BRIC



LATIN AMERICA & CARIBBEAN NATIONS BRIDGING DISTANCE



DIPLOMACY

- During visit to Brazil for the BRICS Summit, PM Modi met with leaders from various Latin American &

Caribbean countries, and also had bilateral discussions with President Rousseff of Brazil.

- Meeting leaders from Latin American countries in Brasilia, PM Modi told them, "distance is not a barrier to opportunities".

CS 2014

VI CÚPULA DO BRICS



SURPASSING BARRIERS



TRADE & INVESTMENT

- **First time India-Mexico Joint Commission Meeting (JCM)** took place at the Foreign Minister level in New Delhi.
- Foreign office consultations held with Latin American countries, including Nicaragua, Guatemala, Bolivia, Colombia and Ecuador.
- India and Brazil agreed to cooperate in the augmentation of a Brazilian earth station for receiving and processing data from IRS satellites.
- **India-LAC Investment Conclave** sought to double the volume of trade between India and LAC countries to \$ 42 billion (Rs 2.62 lakh crore) in two years.



Photos



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Snapshot



FROM 'LOOK EAST'

TO 'ACT EAST'





ACT EAST



DIPLOMACY

- PM Modi's first bilateral visit outside South Asia was to Japan.
- PM Modi and PM Shinzo Abe struck a personal rapport in real world as well as on social media.



DEFENCE

- Memorandum of Cooperation and Exchanges in the field of Defence signed.



JAPAN



INFRASTRUCTURE

- An agreement to build sister city relationship between Kyoto and Varanasi was signed.



ECONOMY

- Japan announced that its private and public investments in India will touch ¥3.5 trillion (Rs 2,10,000 crore) in five years.
- Japan expressed readiness in providing financial, technical and operational support to introduce the Rs 60,000 crore bullet trains between Mumbai and Ahmedabad.
- Japan lifted ban on six Indian entities, including HAL.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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ACT EAST



DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj visited Myanmar in August.
- Prime Minister Modi met President Thein Sein with the focus of their meeting being:
 - better connectivity
 - enhanced cultural contacts
 - strong commercial ties
- PM also met Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, referring to her as a “symbol of democracy”.



MYANMAR



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Progress in major infrastructure projects undertaken was reviewed:
 - 3,200 Km long India-Myanmar-Thailand trilateral highway.
 - Kaladan multi-modal transport project that is aimed at enhancing regional connectivity. The project will connect Kolkata with Sittwe in Myanmar by sea; Sittwe to Lashio in Myanmar via the Kaladan

river boat route and Lashio on to Mizoram by road.

- Possibilities of Indian investment in Special Economic Zones (SEZs) in Myanmar discussed
- Oil India signed a contract to explore two offshore oil and gas blocks of Myanmar.



CULTURE

- PM referred the two countries "fraternal contacts" due to the shared Buddhist connect.



Photos



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Snapshot
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DIPLOMACY

- High level meetings were held between the two countries - Singapore's Foreign Minister and Emeritus Senior Minister visited India. In August, External Affairs Minister visited Singapore.
- PM Modi met Singaporean Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong on the sidelines of East Asia Summit in Myanmar.
- 'Year of India' to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the diplomatic relations between India and Singapore was inaugurated.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Singaporean companies invited to speed up connectivity and infrastructure projects in India along the Delhi-Mumbai Industrial Corridor, Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor and skilling projects in North East of India.
- Singapore's participation sought in water conservation and recycling projects in India as part of Smart Cities initiative.



ECONOMY

- Agreement to scale up ties in investment and trade were also signed.

ACT EAST



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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SINGAPORE



ACT EAST

Melbourne, Sydney and Canberra.

- PM Modi was the first ever Indian PM to address a joint sitting of the Australian Parliament.
- 5 MoUs in various fields like arts and culture, tourism, combating narcotic trafficking, transfer of sentenced persons and social security benefits and coverage were signed.



DIPLOMACY

- Reciprocal visits for the first time in the same year by the Australian and Indian Prime Ministers.
- **PM Modi became the first Indian PM to visit the country in 28 years.** He visited Brisbane,



AUSTRALIA



DEFENCE

- Defence cooperation to cover research, development and industry extended.
- Framework for Security Co-operation, which talks of greater co-operation in counter-terrorism and maritime exchanges signed.



ENERGY

- Agreement on peaceful use of nuclear energy signed during PM Abbott's visit to India.



CULTURE

- Australia returned to India two antique sculptural masterpieces, which were allegedly stolen from temples in Tamil Nadu - one of which was a Nataraja Shiva Idol and the other sculpture was of Ardhanariswara.



Photos



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Snapshot

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DIPLOMACY

- PM Modi was the first Indian PM to visit Fiji in 33 years in November 2014.
- India successfully launched Forum for India-Pacific Islands Co-operation (FIPIC)- a high-level engagement mechanism with the island states of the Pacific region.
- India to assist building Fiji's new Parliamentary library.
- Training programme for young Fijian diplomats in India.

ACT EAST



DEFENCE

- Assistance in defence training and capacity building to be provided to Fiji.

- India to provide USD 5 million for promoting small and village enterprises.



EDUCATION

- Scholarships and training slots for Fijian students doubled.



ECONOMY

- A Line of Credit of USD 70 million was extended to Fiji for a co-generation power plant.

FIJI



Photos



Videos

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Snapshot

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DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister visited Hanoi in August. President of India visited Vietnam in September. Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung came to India on a state visit in October 2014.



ECONOMY

- India extended a USD 100 million Line of Credit to enable Vietnam acquire defence vessels from India.
- Bilateral trade between India and Vietnam projected to cross USD 15 billion by 2020.
- Letter of intent signed between ONGC Videsh Limited and PetroVietnam.
- MoU signed between Jet Airways (India) and Vietnam Airlines Company Limited for direct flights.
- MoU for establishing a Vietnam-India English and IT Training Centre at the Telecommunications University in Nha Trang signed.



CULTURE

- A cultural exchange programme for the period 2015-17 launched.
- MoU on India's support to Vietnam for conservation and restoration of a group of temples at the World Heritage Site of My Son signed.



EDUCATION

- Vietnam became a signatory to the MoU on Nalanda University.

ACT EAST

VIETNAM



Photos

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Videos



Snapshot

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ACT EAST



DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister visited Seoul 28-30 December to co-chair the **India – Republic of Korea Joint Commission** with her counterpart Mr. Yun Byung-se, Minister of Foreign Affairs (FM) of Republic of Korea (RoK).
- Prime Minister Modi had met with President Park Gue-hye on the margins of the East Asia Summit in Nay Pyi Taw.



REPUBLIC OF KOREA



ECONOMY

- Indian keenness to engage Korean industry more closely, especially as partners in the 'Make in India' initiative was conveyed both by Prime Minister & External Affairs Minister in their interactions with Korean leaders.



Photos



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Snapshot



STRENGTHENING TIES WITH



OLD FRIENDS



WEST ASIA



OMAN



DIPLOMACY

- The Minister Responsible for Foreign Affairs Yusuf bin Alawi bin Abdullah was the first Foreign Minister to travel to India and meet External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj in June.
- A pact paving the way for substantial engagement in pursuing and eliminating transnational crimes and terrorism of various hues was signed.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

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WEST ASIA



BAHRAIN



DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister's first visit to the Gulf region was to Bahrain, which underlines the high stakes India has in this region in terms of its energy security, Indian Diaspora and trade ties.



Photos



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DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister Smt. Sushma Swaraj visited UAE in November 2014.



ECONOMY

- External Affairs Minister called upon Industry Captains in Abu Dhabi to be a part of the Indian growth story and 'Make in India' campaign.
- The External Affairs Minister also reached out to the large **Indian community in Dubai**.



WEST ASIA



UAE



Photos



Videos



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WEST ASIA

tralia 2014



KINGDOM OF SAUDI ARABIA



DIPLOMACY

- PM Modi met with Crown Prince Salman bin Abdul Aziz on the margins of G-20 Summit.
- The Crown Prince described India as “a very friendly country” with which the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia is ready to co-operate in all spheres.



Photos



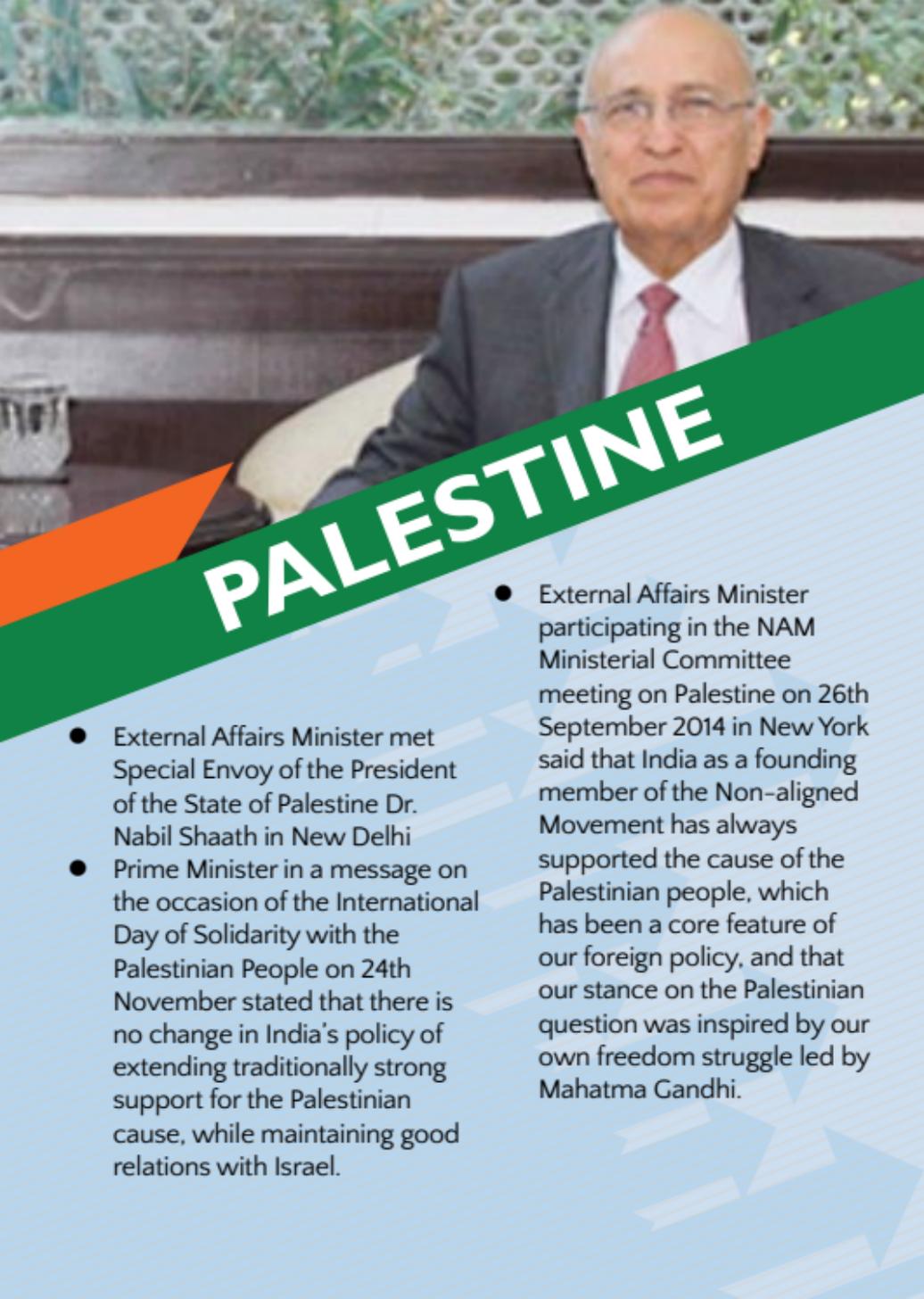
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Snapshot



WEST ASIA



PALESTINE

- External Affairs Minister met Special Envoy of the President of the State of Palestine Dr. Nabil Shaath in New Delhi
- Prime Minister in a message on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People on 24th November stated that there is no change in India's policy of extending traditionally strong support for the Palestinian cause, while maintaining good relations with Israel.
- External Affairs Minister participating in the NAM Ministerial Committee meeting on Palestine on 26th September 2014 in New York said that India as a founding member of the Non-aligned Movement has always supported the cause of the Palestinian people, which has been a core feature of our foreign policy, and that our stance on the Palestinian question was inspired by our own freedom struggle led by Mahatma Gandhi.



WEST ASIA



ISRAEL



DIPLOMACY

- Prime Minister met with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu of Israel in New York during the UN General Assembly, and had discussions on various bilateral and regional issues.
- This was also followed up by a meeting between the External Affairs Minister with her Israeli counterpart in New York at the UNGA.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



SEEKING INVESTMENTS, CLEAN ENERGY



5Y

international high-level conference on promoting strategic dialogue and creating a platform for discussions on topical global issues.



DIPLOMACY

- PM Modi met German Chancellor Angela Merkel on the margins of G20 Summit.
- **German Foreign Minister Dr. Frank-Walter Steinmeier visited India** in September, and had detailed discussions with the External Affairs Minister.
- President Pranab Mukherjee visited **Norway & Finland** on a State visit in October 2014.
- Minister of State Gen. V. K Singh visited **Slovenia** and attended the **9th Bled Strategic Forum** – an



ECONOMY

- PM Modi accepted the invitation of Chancellor Merkel for India to participate in **Hannover Messe 2015** as a partner country.
- “Skilled India, Skilled Germany – The Dual System: State and Business” for training Indian youth in vocational skills by Germany initiated.

EUROPE



Photos

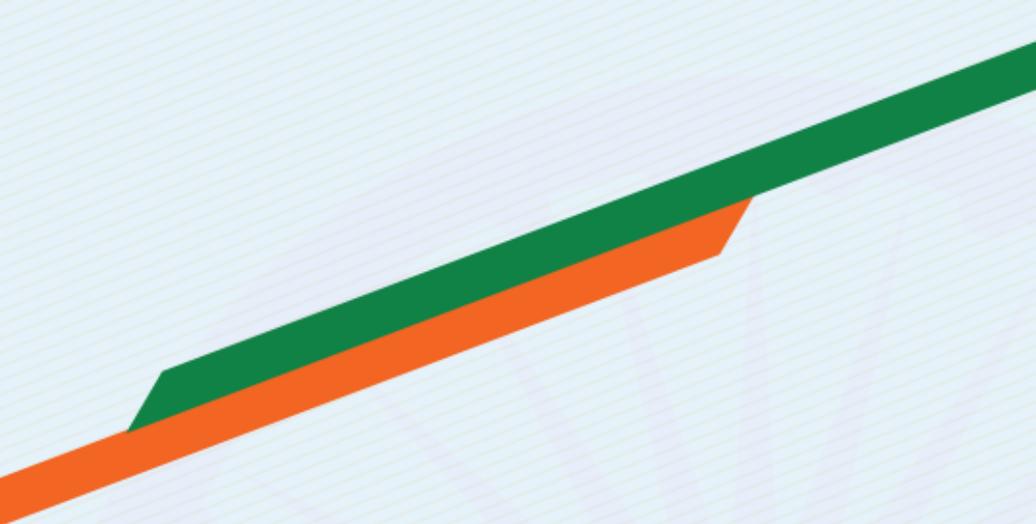


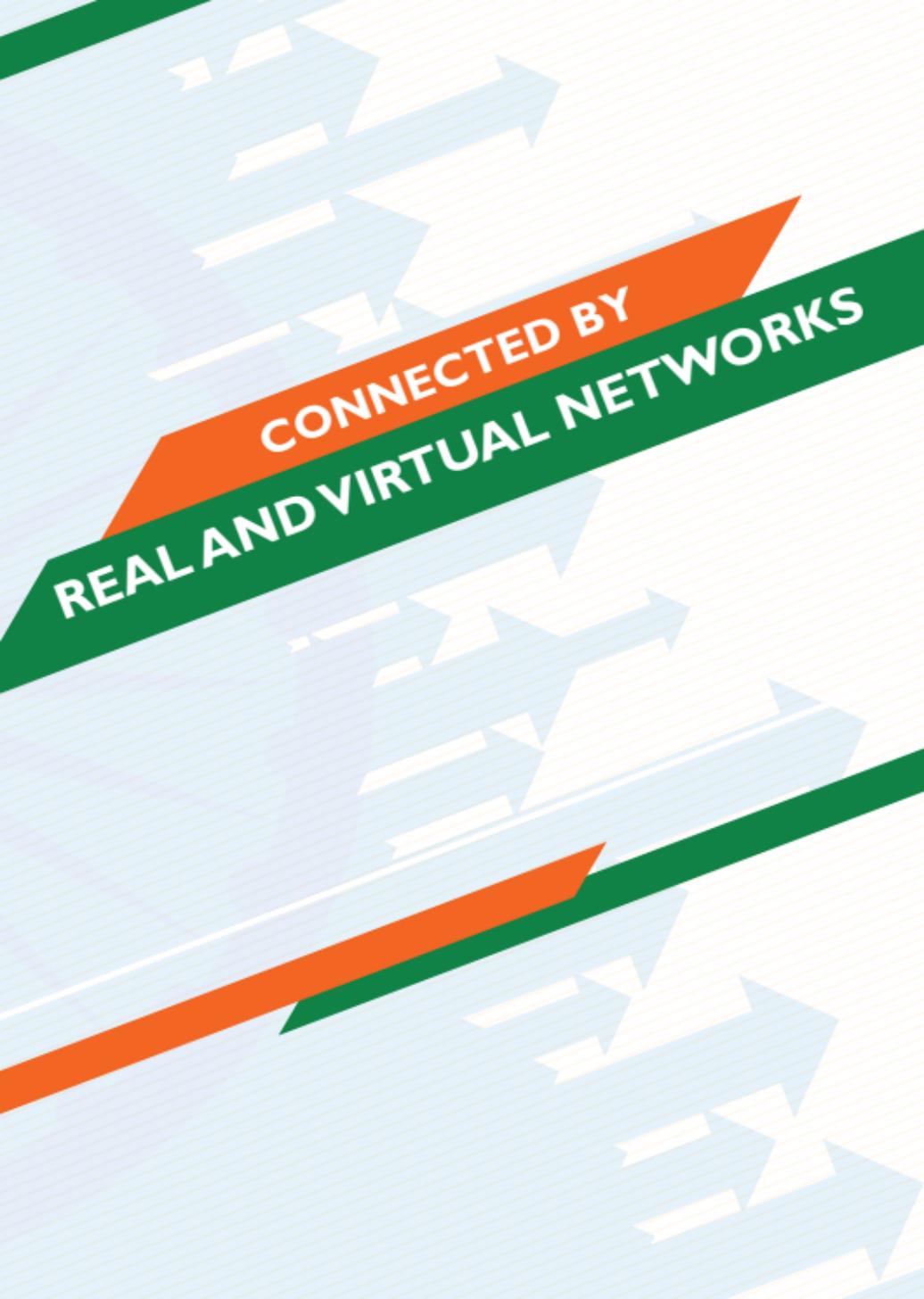
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CONNECTED BY

REAL AND VIRTUAL NETWORKS



DIPLOMACY

- External Affairs Minister participated in the Commemoration of 180th Apravasi Diwas, the anniversary of the arrival of the first Indian indentured labour (Girmitiya) in Mauritius.



ECONOMY

- Discussions on amendments to DTAA.

AFRICA



MAURITIUS



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AFRICA



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



SOUTH AFRICA



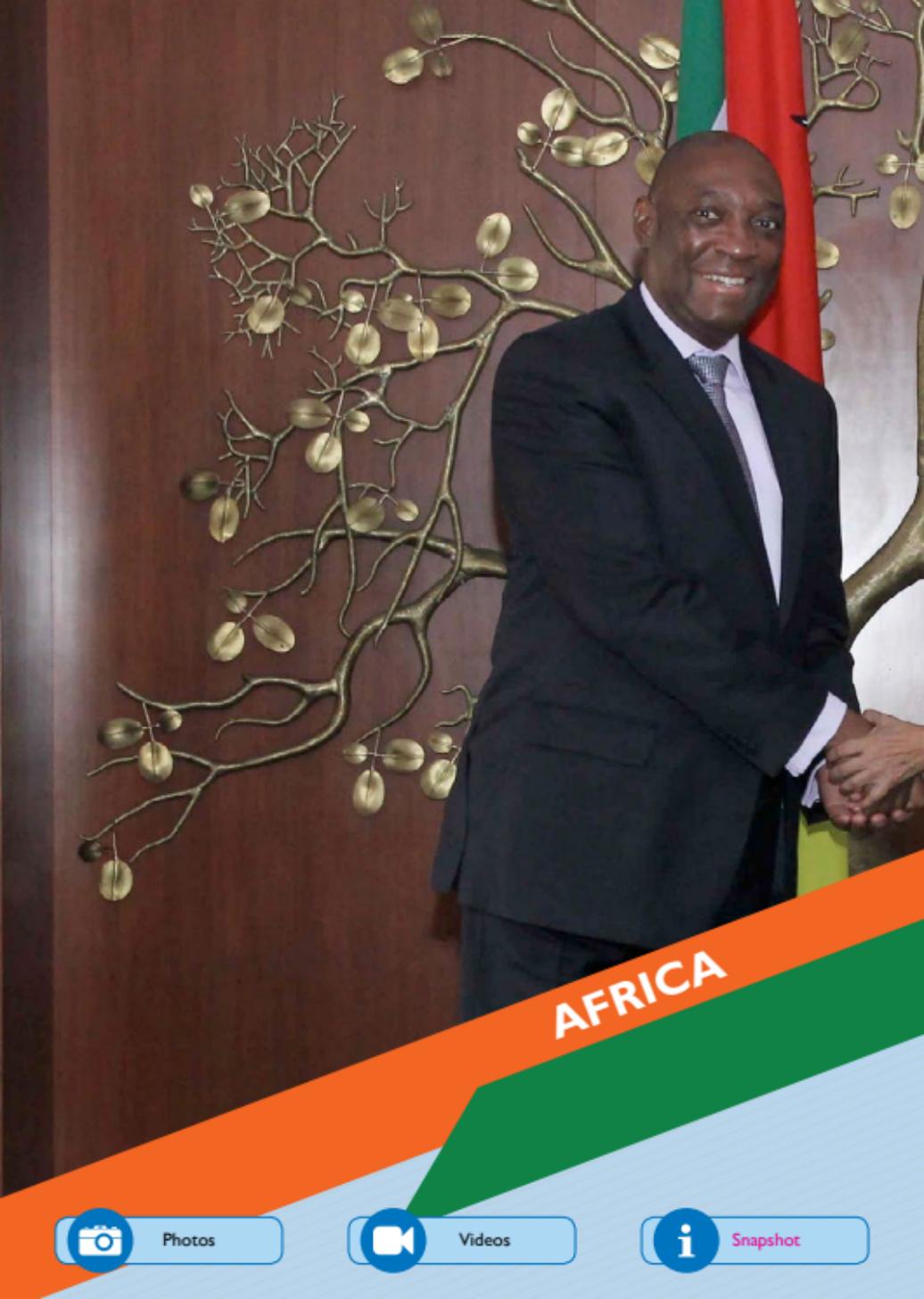
DIPLOMACY

- South African Minister for Human Settlements Lindiwe Nonceba Sisulu met with External Affairs Minister and talked about the role played by India in its liberation.
- Close cooperation in Multilateral Fora – UN & BRICS reiterated.



CULTURE

- 100 years of return of Mahatma Gandhi to India to be celebrated in South Africa in 2015. The South African Foreign Minister Maite Nkoana-Mashabane is to be the Guest of Honour at the Pravasi Bhartiya Diwas 2015.



AFRICA



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



MOZAMBIQUE



DIPLOMACY

- Foreign Minister Oldemiro Baloi visited India and had detailed discussions with the External Affairs Minister.



ECONOMY

- During the visit of Foreign Minister Oldemiro Baloi, a MoU between India and Mozambique to establish a cooperative institutional framework to facilitate and to enhance bilateral cooperation in the oil and gas sector was signed.



AFRICA



UGANDA



DIPLOMACY

- The Minister of Foreign Affairs of Uganda Sam Kutesa visited New Delhi from 27-31 July 2014 and met Prime Minister and External Affairs Minister.
- The Ugandan delegation included Minister of Information, Communication and Technology, Minister of State for Fisheries, Minister of State for Investments, and other senior officials.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



AFRICA



COTE D'IVOIRE

- Prime Minister Daniel Kablan Duncan of Cote d'Ivoire met with External Affairs Minister in New Delhi in November 2014.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



9th EAST ASIA SUMMIT

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 13 November 2014



MAKING A MARK ON THE

WORLD STAGE

and Prosperity



SAARC

The 18th SAARC Summit

Kathmandu, Nepal
26-27 November 2014



BRICS 2014

Brasil



SUMMITS



DIPLOMACY

- PM travelled to the Brazilian city of Fortaleza to participate in the **BRICS Summit**; had bilateral meetings with BRICS leaders.



BRICS



ECONOMY

- An Indian will be the first president of the USD 50 billion **New Development Bank** established by BRICS nations.
- BRICS member-states established a USD 100 billion Contingent Reserve Arrangement for short-term liquidity.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

- At India's initiative, the UN member-countries agreed by acclamation to declare June 21 as 'International Day of Yoga'. The proposal was co-sponsored by an unprecedented number of 177 of the 192 members of the UN.
- PM Modi had proposed the adoption of such a day in his address to the UN General Assembly in September.
- PM called for a concerted effort to fight international terrorism; emphasized on the need to adopt the Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.
- India reiterated need for UN Security Council reforms.
- PM Modi called for comprehensive and concerted direct international action to provide basic amenities to all.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

1 2 3 4



UNITED NATIONS



DIPLOMACY

- PM participated in the 12th ASEAN-India Summit
- External Affairs Minister participated in the 12th ASEAN-India Foreign Ministers' Meeting.
- The PM emphasised that India and the ASEAN can be "great partners" and invited ASEAN countries to take part in India's "new era" of economic development.
- The PM's 'Make in India' pitch also found resonance among ASEAN members.
- Several bilateral meetings were held on the margins of the ASEAN-India Summit.

SUMMITS



ASEAN-INDIA

November 2014



Photos



Videos

1 2



Snapshot



SUMMITS



DIPLOMACY

- PM Modi participated in 9th East Asia Summit and called for a “genuine international partnership” against all forms of terrorism.
- India endorsed condemnation of the violence and hatred unleashed by the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS).
- India called upon nations to follow international law and norms on maritime issues.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

Nay Pyi Taw, Myanmar, 13 Nov



EAST ASIA SUMMIT



ECONOMY

- PM Modi called for a “balanced” Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (RCEP) with equal emphasis on goods and services.





SUMMITS

INDIA

INDONESIA

ITALY



G-20

- At the G-20, a grouping of the world's leading economies, PM Modi made a strong pitch for repatriation of black money and transparency in taxpayer specific rulings.
- G-20 also focused on one of India's prime concerns, employment generation.
- India had a major contribution in framing a growth-oriented agenda for the G-20.
- India also argued for making services as much a part of the global trading mechanism as trade in goods.
- PM sought the creation of a global centre to deal with renewable energy.
- G-20 Leaders' Communiqué welcomed the breakthrough between the United States and India that will help the full and prompt implementation of the Trade Facilitation Agreement and includes provisions on food security.



Photos



Videos

1 2



Snapshot

ISLANDS CO

Suva, Fiji, 19 No



SUMMITS

OPERATION

November 2014



FORUM FOR INDIA-PACIFIC ISLANDS CO-OPERATION

- India's diplomatic outreach also saw PM Modi meeting leaders of 12 Pacific Island nations in Fiji.
- PM announced a Special Adaptation Fund of USD 1 million for them to combat climate change.
- Visa-on-arrival facility announced for the Pacific Island countries - Cook Islands, Kingdom of Tonga, Tuvalu, Republic of Nauru, Republic of Kiribati, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Samoa, Niue, Republic of Palau, Federated States of Micronesia, Republic of Marshall Islands, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.
- Grant-in-Aid for the Pacific Island countries increased from USD 1,25,000 to USD 2,00,000.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



DIPLOMACY

- India actively participated at the SAARC Summit and meetings leading to the Summit in Kathmandu
- PM Modi listed five pillars in his vision for the SAARC region—
 - Trade
 - Investment
 - Assistance
 - Cooperation in every area
 - People-to-people contacts all through seamless connectivity



EDUCATION

- **South Asian University** in Delhi will partner at least one university from each SAARC country.
- India to connect all South Asian students through online courses and E-libraries.
- India's **National Knowledge Network**, once operational, will be extended to the entire SAARC region.



ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

- Framework Agreement for Energy Cooperation for electricity signed.
- India to work towards 'sustainable' trade balance with SAARC member-states.
- For 'ease of doing business', PM Modi proposed a 'SAARC Business Traveller Card'.



HEALTH

- India announced to meet the fund shortfall to establish the SAARC

SUMMITS

27 Nove



Regional **Supra Reference Laboratory for TB and HIV.**

- India offered to support monitoring and surveillance of polio-free countries and provide vaccines.
- Immediate medical visas for those coming to India for medical treatment announced.



INFRASTRUCTURE

- Special Purpose Facility to be set up in India to finance

infrastructure projects in the region to enhance regional connectivity and trade.



SPACE TECHNOLOGY

- India announced its willingness to launch the SAARC satellite by SAARC Day in 2016. It will provide services to the entire SAARC region.

SAARC

Nepal
September 2014



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

ШАНХАЙСКОЙ ОРГАНИЗАЦИИ СОТРУДНИЧЕСТВА
ДУШАНБЕ - 2014



SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANISATION



A STRONGER VOICE

- For the first time, India participated in the SCO Energy Club under External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj.



DIPLOMACY

- India submitted a formal application for full membership of **SCO**
- Minister of State for External Affairs Gen. (Dr.) V.K. Singh attended SCO - Council of Heads of Government Meeting in Astana in December 2014



ECONOMY

- Indian businesses participated in the SCO Business Forum Meet for the first time.



Photos



Videos



Snapshot
1 2 3 4

DIASPORA



THE HOMELAND BECKONS



- It was a **festive and warm welcome for the PM** at the jam-packed Madison Square Garden in New York by the members of the Indian-American community.
- PM invited the Indian diaspora to participate in the 'Make in India' initiative and interact with him through the **MyGov** website.
- Diaspora invited to participate in the '**Clean Ganga**' initiative.



MADISON SQUARE GARDEN, NEW YORK



- PM Modi also shared his vision of 'Housing for All' by 2022.
- Lifetime visas for PIOs and the merger of the PIO and OCI cards announced.
- The PM also announced long-term tourist visas for US citizens, and a visa on arrival facility for US citizens.

 Photos

 Videos

 Snapshot
1 2 3 4

- **PM addressed a huge gathering** of members of the Indian community, and announced the merger of the PIO and OCI cards by January 15.



ALLPHONES ARENA, SYDNEY



Photos



Videos



Snapshot
1 2 3 4

- External Affairs Minister Sushma Swaraj inaugurated London's first ever Regional Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas, and called on all participants to participate in Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas 2015 in Gandhinagar.





REGIONAL PRAVASI BHARATIYA DIWAS IN UK



 Photos

 Videos
1 2

 Snapshot
1 2 3 4

- External Affairs Minister attended an international Conference held in Port Louis, Mauritius in November 2014 to mark the 180th Anniversary of the first arrival of the Indian indentured labourers (Girmitiyas) in Mauritius at Aapravasi Ghat on 2nd November.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 180TH ANNIVERSARY



OF AAPRAVASI DIWAS IN MAURITIUS



Photos



Videos



Snapshot

1 2



CITIZEN-CENTRIC SERVICES

PASSPORTS

- Steps taken to ensure that there is no shortage of passport booklets. A strategic reserve of 1 crore passports has been established.
- Opening of Passport Seva Kendras in North Eastern states fast-tracked.
- Passport melas and Passport camps have been held in several locations throughout the country. During the course of 2015 such Passport melas and Passport camps will be



Photos



Videos



Snapshot



SERVING THE COMMON MAN

expanded to cover all districts of the country.

- Passport submission procedure simplified and self attestation of documents now accepted.

SWACHH BHARAT ABHIYAN

- Ministry of External Affairs took up the Swachh Bharat Abhiyan led by the Foreign Secretary Sujatha Singh.

TECHNOLOGY

- Database of Treaties signed by India is made available online.
- Social media including Facebook and Twitter being used to disseminate information and addressing public grievances in real time.
- Increased use of mobile technology, including GPS mobile applications to help locate accommodation in which Indian pilgrims are staying in Makkah and Madina during Haj was introduced for the first time.

US President Barack Obama has accepted PM Modi's invite to be the Chief Guest at India's Republic Day celebrations on 26 January 2015. It is for the first time that the leader of the world's oldest democracy will participate in the Republic Day celebrations of the world's largest democracy.

EPILOGUE



BEGINNING ON A HIGH NOTE





A PUBLIC DIPLOMACY INITIATIVE OF THE
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

