

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO-865
ANSWERED ON- 27/07/2023

ONGOING MULTILATERAL EVENTS

#865. SHRI ADITYA PRASAD

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state :-

- (a) the details of past achievements in the country on the ongoing multilateral events including G-20; and
- (b) the details of India's growing influence in the world?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

(SHRI V. MURALEEDHARAN)

(a) India is actively engaged in various multilateral forums like UN, G20, Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO), BRICS, The International Solar Alliance, the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure, etc.

Some of the prominent achievements in major multilateral forums in the recent past are tabulated in Annexure-A.

(b) India's persistent efforts are towards making a strong contribution to international peace, stability, growth and security. India has been able to focus global attention on the most pressing challenges faced by humanity through Mission LiFE aimed at democratizing climate action and empowering people to adopt climate friendly lifestyles and the popularization of Millets to address the challenge of food security. India has also advocated for an inclusive human-centric approach to development and use of technology to transform the lives of people. We have redoubled efforts towards reformed multilateralism for a more accountable, inclusive, and representative international system.

There is a global recognition today that India is a force of global good in the world, that is contributions to regional and global stability, peace and prosperity.

United Nations

India was elected as a non-permanent member of the United Nations Security Council for the 8th time for the term 2021-22, with an overwhelming majority (184 of 193 votes) during the elections held on June 2020 in New York.

In August 2021, Prime Minister chaired an Open Debate of the Security Council on international maritime security. It was for the first time in 75 years that Prime Minister of India chaired a meeting of the UN Security Council on the issue of maritime security.

During another signature event at the UN Security Council on “Technology & Peacekeeping”, chaired by EAM in August 2021, a first of its kind Security Council Resolution on “Protecting the Protectors” with focus on accountability for crimes against UN Peacekeepers, as well as a Presidential Statement on “Technology and Peacekeeping” were unanimously adopted. As a leading troop contributing country to UN Peacekeeping Missions, use of technology in UN peacekeeping is an important focus for India.

India donated US\$ 1.6 million dollars to the UN to develop a situational awareness platform called UNITE AWARE for the benefit of peacekeeping missions. This software platform aims to provide real-time, updated data on a range of parameters--such as topography, demography, security situation, etc., to peacekeepers deployed in conflict areas.

During this tenure as a non-permanent member, India also served as the Chair of the 1988 (Taliban) Sanctions Committee and 1970 (Libya) Sanctions Committee of the Security Council for two years, and of the 1373 (Counter Terrorism) Committee for the year 2022.

During India’s second Presidency of the Security Council in December 2022, a High-Level Open Debate was organized on the theme of "New Orientation for Reformed Multilateralism" [NORMS] chaired by EAM. The primary focus of the Open Debate was on Reforming Multilateralism and encouraging all Member States to decisively address the pressing needs for such reforms in the global governance architecture, including of course the long-debated reforms in the UN Security Council. For the first time, India brought the debate on UNSC reforms to the Security Council itself.

As Chair of the important Counter Terrorism Committee (CTC) of the Security Council in 2022, a historic and successful Special Meeting of the UN Security Council’s Counter-Terrorism Committee was held for 2 days in Mumbai and Delhi in October 2022. This was the first time the UNSC convened in India in any format. Again, for the first time, all 15 Members of the UN Security Council jointly paid tributes to the victims of terrorism at the 26/11 Memorial in Taj Palace Hotel in Mumbai on 28 October 2022.

The Special Meeting of the Security Council’s Counter Terrorism Committee meeting in Delhi on 29 October 2022 unanimously adopted the “Delhi Declaration” on Countering the Use of New and Emerging Technologies for Terrorist Purposes.

In December 2022, during our second Presidency of the Security Council, EAM chaired a high-level UNSC Briefing on “Global Counter terrorism Approach: Challenges and Way Forward”.

Following this briefing, the Security Council approved a Security Council Presidential Statement on Counter terrorism.

India also held the 3rd *No Money for Terror* Ministerial Conference to strengthen global efforts against terrorism.

India co-sponsored a landmark UN General Assembly Resolution (A/RES/76/268) on 'Multilingualism' which was unanimously adopted on 10 June 2022. For the first time, this Resolution mentioned Hindi language, encouraging the UN Department of Global Communications to continue disseminating important communications and messages in official as well as in non-official languages, including in Hindi.

On 21 June 2023, Prime Minister led the Yoga Day celebrations at the UN headquarters, creating the Guinness World Record for the participation of people of most nationalities in a single Yoga session. The idea for declaring an International Day of Yoga (IDY) at the United Nations was formally proposed by the Prime Minister in his maiden address to the 69th UNGA on 27 September 2014. The resolution establishing the IDY was co-sponsored by 177 countries and was adopted by the UNGA in December, 2014.

"Mission LIFE" was launched by the Prime Minister in 2022. The UN Secretary General travelled to India to grace the occasion. At the launch, leaders from across the world joined the Hon'ble PM by sending video messages supporting the Mission LiFE initiative.

India successfully sponsored a UN General Assembly resolution, declaring the year 2023 as the "International Year of Millets". The resolution, supported by more than 70 countries, is intended to increase public awareness on the health benefits of millets and their suitability for cultivation under tough conditions marked by Climate Change.

G20

During India's year-long G20 Presidency from 01 December 2022 to 30 November 2023, over 200 meetings are being held across all Indian States and Union Territories. The G-20 Leaders' Summit will be held in New Delhi on 09-10 September 2023.

To ensure that our G-20 Presidency focuses on the priorities, perspectives and concerns of the developing world, India organized the first ever *Voice of Global South Summit* in January. The high level participation from 125 countries reflected their trust in India's efforts towards building a prosperous and inclusive future for the entire World.

India's G-20 Presidency's priorities include advocacy for inclusive and resilient growth; progress on SDGs; green development and Mission LiFE; technological transformation and public digital infrastructure; reforming multilateral institutions; women led development; and international peace and harmony. Further, India is also amplifying the voice and concerns of the Global South and developing countries.

Export Control Regimes

India engages as a member of Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR), Wassenaar Arrangement (WA) and Australia Group (AG). India assumed the Plenary Chairmanship of WA from 1 January 2023 for a period of one year, which is significant considering that India became the latest member of WA only around than five years back in December 2017.

SCO:

India joined the organization as a full Member State in the year 2017 and held the first-ever presidency of SCO from September 17, 2022 to July 4, 2023. In this period, India hosted around 134 events including 14 ministerial level meetings with a key focus on *SECURE: Security, Economic development, Connectivity, Unity, Respect for Sovereignty & territorial integrity and Environmental protection*.

India also successfully created five new pillars of cooperation in SCO namely, Startups & Innovations, Traditional Medicine, Digital Inclusion, Youth Empowerment and Shared Buddhist Heritage.

India hosted the Heads of State Summit of the Shanghai Cooperation organisation (SCO) on July 4, 2023 in virtual format.

India's leadership of the organization has led to various meaningful outcome document like the New Delhi Declaration of SCO Heads of State, two Statements of Heads of State, on Countering Radicalization leading to Terrorism, Separatism and Extremism and on Cooperation in Digital Transformation.

India also successfully introduced the concept of De-carbonization of Transport, Promotion of Digital Transformation and Innovative Technologies to Achieve Higher Efficiency and Sustainability which was endorsed by Heads of all Member States of SCO.

At India's initiative, two new mechanisms (working groups) were created Special Working Group on Startups and Innovation and an Experts Working Group on Traditional Medicine.

ISA

ISA aims to provide collective work towards the massive deployment of solar energy in terms of technology, finance and capacity building. As of July 2023, the ISA has strengthened its membership with 116 countries that, includes 94 Member Countries (countries having ratified the ISA Framework Agreement) and 22 Signatory Countries (countries having signed but yet to ratify the ISA Framework Agreement).

CDRI

Global population is increasingly becoming vulnerable to the impact of climate change and natural hazards. India through its dedicated initiative of Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI) is bringing together nations to building a future that is disaster resilient through disaster and climate resilient infrastructure. India prioritizes to localize disaster and climate resilience information and technical capacity building through CDRI.
