

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
RAJYA SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 564
ANSWERED ON 23/07/2026

NEW INITIATIVES FOR EXPANSION OF STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIPS

#564 SHRI SANJAY KUMAR JHA

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Government is working on new initiatives to expand developmental, technical and digital partnerships with the 'Global South' countries and if so, the details thereof; and
- (b) whether progress has been made towards strengthening Indo-Pacific and QUAD cooperation for India's global supply chain partnerships?

ANSWER

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRTI VARDHAN SINGH)

(a) The Government has introduced several initiatives to expand cooperation and partnerships with the Global South countries. During India's G20 Presidency, the African Union was admitted as a permanent member of the G20. India pioneered the Voice of Global South Summit (VOGSS) as a unique platform for developing countries to share perspectives and priorities, with three editions held (January 2023, November 2023, August 2024), each seeing participation of over 100 countries from Africa, Latin America, Asia, and the Pacific Islands. Notably, DAKSHIN (Development and Knowledge Sharing Initiative), formed as part of the Prime Minister's call at the 1st Voice of the Global South Summit (January 2023) for a Global South Centre of Excellence, has been established to promote knowledge-sharing and practical cooperation among developing countries. Other initiatives include the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI), the Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE), International Solar Alliance (ISA), development partnership programs, and capacity building programs in which several Global South countries actively participate. Further, India has leveraged the solutions offered by digital public infrastructure (DPI) domestically, and has offered such solutions to several partners in the Global South.

(b) India envisages Indo-Pacific as a free, open, peaceful and prosperous region, with respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, freedom of navigation and over-flight, unimpeded lawful commerce, peaceful resolution of disputes, as well as equality of all nations. With this objective, India has fostered strong bilateral and multilateral partnerships with all key partners and like-minded countries in the Indo-Pacific. The Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiatives (IPOI) was announced by Prime Minister at the 14th East Asia Summit in 2019 with a view to promote practical cooperation among the countries for the peace and prosperity of the Indo-Pacific. The Quad has consistently expressed concern regarding non-market practices that undermine global supply chain resilience and economic security, particularly in the area of critical minerals. In this regard, the Quad Critical Minerals Initiative (July 2025), the Quad Critical Minerals Framework (May 2026) and Quad Initiative on Indo-Pacific Energy Security (May 2026) were announced.
