

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS**

**LOK SABHA
UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.5181
TO BE ANSWERED ON 05.04.2017**

PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

†5181. SHRI BHAIRON PRASAD MISHRA:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of countries visited by the Prime Minister during the last three years; and**
- (b) the details of achievements made as a result of visit to these countries?**

ANSWER

**THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
[GEN. (DR) V. K. SINGH (RETD)]**

- (a) & (b) Information is placed at Annexure.**

PRIME MINISTER'S VISITS

S. No	the details of countries visited by the Prime Minister during the last three years (a)	the details of achievements made as a result of visit to these countries (b)
1	Bhutan 15-16 June 2014	Prime Minister paid a State visit to Bhutan from 15-16 June, 2014. It was the first foreign visit of PM after taking over responsibility as Prime Minister. The visit reinforced the tradition of regular high level exchanges between the two countries and gave further fillip to excellent bilateral relationship in areas such as economic cooperation, development cooperation, hydropower development, security cooperation and people-to-people contacts. During the visit, PM laid the foundation stone of 600 MW Kholongchhu Hydropower Project, inaugurated the Supreme Court building which was constructed with Government of India's assistance and announced e-Library project.
2	Brazil (BRICS and Bilateral) 15-16 July 2014	Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 6 th BRICS Summit held in Brazil on 15-16 July 2014. The Leaders discussed a wide range of issues covering reform of global governance – both political and economic, trade, finance, regional political issues as well as global issues including WTO, terrorism, transnational organized crime, climate change, post-2015 development agenda, etc. as well as issues relating to intra-BRICS cooperation. The Fortaleza Declaration was issued at the Summit. Major outcomes of the 6 th BRICS Summit include signing of an Agreement for setting up a New Development Bank and signing of a Treaty setting up the Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA). An MoU on technical cooperation amongst Export Credit Insurance/ Guarantee Agencies of BRICS countries and an Inter-Bank Cooperation Agreement on Innovation were also signed at the Summit. Prime Minister also held bilateral talks with the then President of Brazil Ms. Dilma Rousseff on 16 July 2014. Three bilateral MoUs/Agreements on Space, Consular issues, and environment were signed during the visit.
3	Nepal 3-4 August 2014	Prime Minister paid an official bilateral visit to Nepal from 3-4 August 2014. This was the first bilateral visit by an Indian Prime Minister to Nepal in 17 years. Agreements / MOUs signed during the visit include signing of the Exchange of Letters regarding Terms of Reference of the Pancheshwar Development Authority, MoU on Cooperation in Goitre Control, and MoU on Cooperation between Doordarshan and the Nepal Television.
4	Japan 30 Aug- 3 Sept 2014	Prime Minister paid an official visit to Japan from August 30 to September 03, 2014 for the 9 th bilateral Annual Summit Meeting. It was also the first visit of Prime Minister outside India's immediate neighbourhood. During the visit Prime Minister had an audience with His Majesty and interacted with the Japanese leadership and captains of the industry. Following the summit meeting of Prime Ministers, bilateral relationship was upgraded to ' <i>Special Strategic and Global Partnership</i> '. Both

		sides also launched the India-Japan Investment Promotion Partnership, under which Japan conveyed its intention to invest 3.5 trillion yen of public and private investment in India over the next five years as well as to double the number of Japanese companies operating in India. Defence equipment and technology was identified as a new major area of cooperation. The two sides also agreed to strengthen their cooperation in several areas including in energy, LNG, railways, infrastructure, smart cities, science & technology and in promoting people to people exchanges. MoUs/Agreements in the field of defence cooperation, healthcare, women & child development, roads & road transportation, partner city were signed during the visit.
5	USA 26 – 30 Sep 2014	At the invitation of US President Barack Obama, Prime Minister visited the United States from September 26-30, 2014, combining his bilateral visit to Washington D.C. with a visit to New York for the UN General Assembly. Prime Minister met US President Barack Obama in a restricted format and in delegation-level talks, including over a private dinner and during their joint visit to the Martin Luther King Memorial. During the visit, Prime Minister also held meetings with members of the US Congress and political leaders, including from various States and cities in the US, and interacted with members of President Obama's Cabinet. He also met the leaders of the US commerce and industry, the American civil society and think-tanks, and the Indian-American community. Bilateral, regional and global issues of mutual interest were discussed during the meetings. A Vision Statement on the theme of ' <i>Chalein Saath Saath: Forward Together We Go</i> ' and a Joint Statement, reflecting concrete ways to realize that vision, were issued during Prime Minister's visit to the United States.
6	Myanmar (for ASEAN/ EAS) 11-13 Nov 2014	The visit gave an opportunity to upgrade relationship with ASEAN with the announcement of the Act East Policy for bringing in a broader strategic outlook for the region i.e., more action and result oriented.
7	Australia (for G-20 and Bilateral) 14-18 Nov 2014	Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 9 th G20 Summit held in Brisbane, Australia on 15-16 November 2014. Issues discussed by G20 leaders include reducing the cost of remittances, commitment to raise the G20 GDP, commitment to increase women's participation in workforce, cooperation in increasing energy efficiency, and commitment to finalize the work on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting. On the margins of the G20 Summit, Prime Minister also attended a meeting of BRICS Leaders. The Leaders shared views on the current state of world economy, IMF Reform and other issues on the G20 Summit Agenda. PM's visit continued after the conclusion of G20, as a bilateral one from 16-18 November 2014. During the visit, Framework for Security Cooperation was signed between the two countries. Besides, Agreement on Social Security, Agreement concerning Transfer of Sentenced Persons, MoU on Combating Narcotics Trafficking and Developing Police Cooperation, MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Arts and Culture and an MoU in the Field of Tourism were also signed.
8	Fiji (for FIPIC and Bilateral) 19-20 Nov 2014	Prime Minister made the following announcements during the 1 st FIPIC Summit held in Suva on 19 November 2014. Announcements made included: E-Tourist on arrival; Increase in Annual Grant in Aid from USD 125,000 to USD 200,000; Training of Diplomats from PICs; Deputation of ITEC experts; Holding of the 2 nd FIPIC Summit in 2015; Establishment of Trade Office in India; Pan Pacific Islands Project for Tele-medicine and Tele-education; Setting up of Adaptation Fund of USD 1 Million; Distinguished Visitors Programme; Space Technology Application – sharing data that could be used for monitoring climate change, disaster risk reduction & management, resource management.

		<p>On the bilateral visit to Fiji on 20 November 2014, outcomes included: An MoU was signed between India and Fiji for earmarking of land for construction of Diplomatic missions, residences etc. in the respective capitals; Indian visa on arrival for Fijians; Increase of ITEC, Civil and Defence and ICCR scholarship slots to Fiji; MoU for extending a LoC of USD 70 million through EXIM bank for establishing a co-generation plant at the Rarawai Sugar Mill in Fiji was signed; Grant of USD 5 million to Fiji for promotion of Village and Small Business Enterprises; MoU on training of foreign diplomats by FSI was signed; Enhancing cooperation in the development of rice, coconut and diary industry in Fiji; To encourage Indian film industry for shooting in Fiji.</p>
9	Nepal (SAARC) 26-28 Nov 2014	<p>Prime Minister participated in the 18th SAARC Summit held from 26-27 November 2014 in Kathmandu, demonstrating our commitment to the South Asian region especially in the context of the Government's 'Neighbourhood First' policy. The SAARC Framework Agreement for Energy Cooperation (Electricity) was signed by Member States at the Summit to enable cross-border trade of electricity in the region. During his speech at the Summit, Prime Minister laid out India's vision for regional cooperation in South Asia and our approach to harnessing the development potential of the region as a whole. Several unilateral initiatives for showcasing and sharing India's scientific and technological progress with the SAARC community were announced by the Prime Minister. Of these, initiatives including assistance to South Asian citizens caught in conflicts and disasters, partnerships for South Asian University, Monitoring and surveillance of polio free countries, SAARC Business Traveller Card and immediate medical visas for patients and attendants from SAARC Countries have been fully implemented and significant progress has been made in other projects such as launch of South Asia Satellite.</p> <p>Prime Minister also held bilateral talks and Agreements / MOUs signed include MoU regarding the establishment of National Police Academy (NPA) at Panauti, (Nepal), MoU on cooperation in the field of Tourism, MoU on Traditional Medicines, MoU on Youth Exchange, LoC US \$ 1 billion Agreement, Motor Vehicle Agreement (MVA), MoU between Sutlej Jal Vidyut Nigam and Investment Board of Government of Nepal on PDA for ARUN III, Twin City Agreements between Ayodhya – Janakpur, Kathmandu - Varanasi and Lumbini - Bodh Gaya. During the visit, Hon'ble PM flagged off the Kathmandu-Delhi Passenger Bus Service 'Pashupatinath Express'. At the request of Nepal, power supply to Nepal was also augmented by 70 MW, prior to the visit of Prime Minister for the SAARC Summit. The signing of these MoUs/Agreements facilitates, inter-alia, training of security personnel, capacity building, enhanced bilateral cooperation in the field of tourism and hospitality sector, AYUSH (Ayurveda, Yoga & Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha & Homeopathy) and traditional medicines, cooperation in the field of youth development, development of infrastructure in Nepal, smooth transit of vehicles and goods, increased people-to-people contacts.</p>
10	Seychelles 10-11 March 2015	<p>Prime Minister's official visit was the first Prime Ministerial level visit from India to Seychelles in 34 years. It was a highly successful visit with substantive outcomes, which <i>inter alia</i> included inauguration of the Coastal Surveillance Radar System (CSRS) Project, announcement of gifting of a second Dornier aircraft to Seychelles and 3-month gratis visa for Seychelles nationals for travel to India. Four Agreements/MoUs in the field of Renewable Energy; Hydrography; Sale of Navigational Charts / Electronic Navigational Charts and Development of Facilities on Assumption Island were signed.</p>

11	Mauritius 11-12 March 2015	Prime Minister visited Mauritius on 11-12 March 2015 to be the Chief Guest of National Day of Mauritius on March 12th. He also addressed the Mauritian National Assembly. It was a highly successful visit with substantive outcomes, which included <i>inter alia</i> setting up of a Multi Disciplinary Youth Forum and laying stone for construction of World Hindi Secretariat. Five MoUs/Agreements in the field of Ocean Economy; Cultural Exchange Programme; Ayush; Development of Facilities on Agalega Island and Mango Import were signed.
12	Sri Lanka 13-14 March 2015	Prime Minister visited Sri Lanka on March 13, 2015 and held bilateral discussions on wide range of issues of mutual interest including political developments in Sri Lanka. During the visit, four MoUs/Agreements in the field of customs cooperation; waiver of visa requirement for diplomatic/official passports; Youth development and construction of Rabindranath Tagore Auditorium in Ruhuna University in Matara were signed.
13	Singapore 28-29 March 2015	Prime Minister visited Singapore to attend State Funeral of Singapore's founder and first Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew. During the visit, PM met the Deputy PM of Singapore Mr. Tharman Shanmugaratnam and held discussions on bilateral matters.
14	France 9-12 April 2015	Prime Minister paid an official visit to France during 9-12 April, 2015. During the visit, France reaffirmed support for our membership of UNSC permanent seat and for export control regimes. A joint Statement was issued and 19 agreements/MoUs were signed during the visit encompassing diverse areas of cooperation between India and France, such as Nuclear Energy, Space, Railways, Conservation of Cultural Heritage, Science and Technology, Renewable Energy, etc. Prime Minister announced to purchase 36 Rafale fighter aircrafts from France, the inter-governmental agreement for which has been signed in September 2016, giving major boost to 'Make in India' in defence sector. A Roadmap of Cooperation in Jaitapur Nuclear Power project to conclude techno-commercial negotiations for the construction of six nuclear power reactor units at Jaitapur has been concluded in January 2016 for early implementation of the project. Under the MoU for setting up of a National Institute of Marine Biology and Biotechnology in Goa signed during the visit, the project is expected to start soon. Several projects are under consideration under the French commitment to provide Euro 2 billion from AFD towards "sustainable Infrastructure and urban development projects in India". The Volontariat International en Entreprises (VIE) Scheme is under implementation and France is granting an extended stay of 2 years to Indian students of masters level and above in France. The visit was successful in achieving the objectives and France has emerged as a key partner in our flagship development initiatives.
15	Germany 12-14 April 2015	Prime Minister paid an official visit to Germany from 12 to 14 April 2015 and participated in the inauguration of the Hannover Messe Trade Fair 2015, at which India was Partner Country. Specific areas for collaboration in the fields of manufacturing, skill development, urban development, environment, railways, cleaning of rivers, renewable energy, education, language and science & technology were mutually identified in the Joint Statement issued. Prime Minister's interactions with the political leadership of Germany and business leaders assured German industries of the Indian Government's sincere commitment to provide a fair, transparent and predictable business environment. The visit succeeded in accomplishing the central objective of showcasing the promise and potential of a resurgent India and established a robust roadmap for making Germany a partner of choice in key areas of mutual interest.

16	Canada 14-16 April 2015	Prime Minister visited Canada from 14-16 April 2015 and held talks with his counterpart Stephen Harper. He called-on the Governor General of Canada, David Johnston, and received the Premiers of Ontario and British Columbia, as also leader of the Liberal Party Justin Trudeau. He also had interactions with CEOs of Pension Funds. During the visit, the two Prime Ministers decided to elevate their relationship to a strategic partnership. Signing of an agreement on procurement of Uranium from Canada, MoUs on cooperation in the field of outer space, railway transportation and 13 MoUs on skill development (fields of agriculture, apparel and textiles, automotive, aviation, construction, green economy, healthcare, hydrocarbons, IT, telecom and electronics, sports sector, and water) constituted key outcomes from the visit.
17	China 14-16 May 2015	Prime Minister paid an official visit to China from 14-16 May 2015. During the visit, the two sides signed an unprecedented 24 MoUs/Agreements, covering diverse fields of cooperation like railways, science & technology, mining, trade & commerce, education, tourism, people-to-people exchanges etc. In addition, 26 Business Agreements/MoUs amounting to over US\$ 22 billion were also signed. In recognition of the increasingly important role played by Indian States and Chinese Provinces in advancing the bilateral relationship, the 1st India-China State/Regional Leaders' Forum was also held in Beijing during the visit of the Prime Minister.
18	Mongolia 16-18 May 2015	Prime Minister's visit to Mongolia was the first ever visit by an Indian Prime Minister to the country. The visit also marked the 60 th Anniversary of our Diplomatic Relations with Mongolia. He held discussions with Mongolian Prime Minister Ch.Saikhanbileg. President Ts.Elbegdorj and Speaker Z.Enkhbold. The visit resulted in elevating our bilateral relationship to 'Strategic Partnership'. India also announced the US\$ 1 bn Line of Credit for the development of Mongolian economy. During the visit, the two sides also exchanged 13 Memorandums/Agreements in the fields of air services, animal health & dairy, education, cyber security, border security, energy, traditional system of medicine, agriculture, health among others.
19	South Korea 18-19 May 2015	Prime Minister paid an official visit to the Republic of Korea from 18-19 May 2015. In the defence and security fields, initiatives such as establishment of a defence and foreign affairs '2+2' Dialogue, formalization of consultations between national security structures of India and ROK, staff level talks between the navies and regular exchanges of visits between the two armed forces were announced. On the economic front, Joint Working Groups were set up in the areas such as ship-building and electronic hardware manufacturing to enhance cooperation. It was decided that the two sides would commence negotiations on amending the India-ROK CEPA, and seek to cooperate in new areas including smart grids, steel sector, maritime transport etc. Seven documents in the areas of double taxation avoidance, audio-visual co-production, youth affairs, energy, maritime transport, road transport and cooperation between National Security Councils were signed during the visit.
20	Bangladesh 6-7 June 2015	Prime Minister visited Bangladesh on June 6-7, 2015 at the invitation of the Prime Minister of Bangladesh, Sheikh Hasina. Twenty two (22) agreements/MoUs were signed/exchanged during the visit including Exchange of Instrument of Ratification of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and its Protocol of 2011; Exchange of Letters between the two Foreign Secretaries on Modalities for implementation of the 1974 Land Boundary Agreement and its Protocol of 2011; Agreement on Coastal Shipping; Renewal of the Bilateral Trade Agreement, the Protocol on Inland Waterways, Transit and Trade (PIWTT), and the Cultural Exchange Programme; MoU on the establishment of an Indian SEZ in Bangladesh; MoU for extending a new Indian Line of Credit (LoC) of US\$ 2 billion to Bangladesh; MoU on prevention of Human Trafficking; MoU on prevention of smuggling and circulation of Fake Currency Notes; MoU in the field of Blue Economy and Maritime Co-operation in the Bay

		of Bengal and the Indian Ocean Region, etc.
21	Uzbekistan 6-7 July 2015	PM had one-on-one talks with President Karimov and also delegation-level talks. Joint statement was adopted and three agreements signed in the field of tourism, foreign affairs and culture.
22	Kazakhstan 7-8 July 2015	The visit of Prime Minister to Kazakhstan in July 2015 renewed contacts with the Kazakhstan leadership and further strengthened bilateral relations, which resulted in several beneficial outcomes including new five year contract for supply of natural uranium from Kazakhstan to India; a new agreement on cooperation in defence and military technical spheres; an agreement on transfer of sentenced persons; an MoU on cooperation on Physical Culture and Sports; an MoU on technical cooperation in the field of Railways; inauguration of Centre of Excellence in the field of Information and Communication Technology at Eurasia National University to support capacity building in Kazakhstan; Kazakhstan's support for India's non-permanent membership of UNSC in 2021-22; enhanced cooperation in security sphere and counter terrorism; further strengthening of trade, investment & economic cooperation, including India's participation in Astana EXPO-2017; and further deepening of cultural cooperation and academic linkages.
23	Russia (BRICS) 8-10 July 2015	<p>Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 7th BRICS Summit held on 8-9 July 2015 in Ufa, Russia. The Leaders discussed a wide range of issues including UN Reforms, IMF Reforms, WTO, G20, regional and global political developments, terrorism, New Development Bank (NDB), BRICS Contingent Reserve Arrangement (CRA), cooperation in ICTs and other issues relating to intra-BRICS Cooperation. The Leaders adopted the Ufa Declaration and Action Plan at the Summit. Key outcomes of the BRICS Summit include an Agreement on Cultural Cooperation, an MoU on the Creation of a Joint BRICS Website and an MoU under the BRICS Inter-Bank Mechanism on Cooperation with the New Development Bank. The BRICS Strategy for Economic Partnership which was also adopted by the Leaders at the Summit includes cooperation in the areas of trade, investment, finance, manufacturing, energy, agriculture, science & technology, connectivity, ICT, etc.</p> <p>The decision to commence the process of inclusion of India as member states in the SCO was made during the July 2015 SCO summit in the Russian city of Ufa.</p>
24	Turkmenistan 10-11 July 2015	During the visit PM inaugurated Yoga and Traditional Medicine Centre & Mahatma Gandhi's bust was unveiled in Ashgabat. While agreeing to expand cooperation in energy and transport sectors, MoUs/Agreements to expand and strengthen cooperation were signed in the field of Yoga and Traditional Medicine; Supply of Chemical Products; Sports; Defence; Tourism; Science and Technology.
25	Kyrgyz Republic 11-12 July 2015	Prime Minister and the Kyrgyz President held extensive exchange of views on strengthening bilateral relations as well as regional and international issues of mutual interest, in warm and friendly atmosphere. Both sides agreed on political cooperation and cooperation at regional and global level as well as on defence and economic cooperation. A joint statement was issued and four agreements/MoUs were signed in the areas of defence cooperation, culture, elections and standardization.
26	Tajikistan 12-13 July 2015	The main achievements of the visit are Stepping up of defence and strategic cooperation; Connectivity was one of the focal areas of discussion and the two countries agreed to promote setting up of International North South Transport Corridor; both sides resolved to intensify cooperation on countering terrorism and extremism; for the first time, a joint Agriculture Workshop was held, which opened a new avenue for cooperation; Prime Minister unveiled a bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore; the

		two sides decided to set up computer labs in 37 schools of Tajikistan; a programme of cooperation in the field of culture for 2016-2018 was signed.
27	UAE 16-17 August 2015	During the visit, the two sides decided to elevate the bilateral relations to a comprehensive strategic partnership. It was agreed to enhance cooperation in counter terrorism operations, intelligence sharing and capacity-building and to have strategic security cooperation through establishment of dialogue between their National Security Advisers and the National Security Councils. The two sides also decided to raise bilateral trade by 60% during the next five years and to encourage investment institutions in the UAE to reach a target of US\$ 75 billion of investments in infrastructure sector in India, including through establishment of an India-UAE Infrastructure Investment Fund.
28	Ireland 23-28 September 2015	Prime Minister paid a short official visit to Ireland on 23 September 2015 en route to New York for the 70th UNGA. The Irish Prime Minister and Prime Minister Modi held wide-ranging discussions on bilateral and global issues of mutual interest. The two leaders discussed the entire gamut of bilateral relations including education, IT, science & technology, agriculture, tourism, healthcare and diaspora linkages and global issues such as UNSC reforms, climate change, sustainable development goals, environment and disarmament. Ireland expressed support for India's membership of MTCR.
29	USA 23-28 September 2015	Prime Minister visited New York and San Jose from 23-28 September, 2015. Besides, multilateral engagements, PM met President Barack Obama In New York. In San Jose, PM interacted with top Fortune 500 CEOs and had round tables on (i) financial sector (ii) media, technology and communications. Prime Minister met the CEOs of several US technology companies including Apple, Microsoft, Google, Qualcomm, Cisco, and Adobe. Prime Minister also visited Google headquarters; toured Tesla Motors; and was featured in a town hall meeting at Facebook's headquarters. He addressed a Digital India Technology Dinner with CEOs and senior representatives of IT, technology and technology related companies in the US. The Prime Minister attended a roundtable on renewable energy sector, in collaboration with the US Department of Commerce and Stanford University. PM also addressed the India-US Startup Konnect 2015, wherein 36 start-ups from India participated in an exhibition. 7 Memorandum of Understanding/Letters of Intent were signed to strengthen the India US partnership to boost technology, innovation and start-ups. Several US technology companies announced their plans to enhance their engagements in India. PM also interacted with the Indian diaspora.
30	UK 12-14 November 2015	Eight agreements were signed during the visit of the Prime Minister to UK from 12-14 November 2015. Five outcome documents were issued by the two Prime Ministers during the visit: A Vision Statement outlining an ambitious vision to upgrade the India-UK relationship; a Joint Statement highlighting initiatives to deepen the bilateral partnership in a wide range of areas including economic cooperation, urban development, education, skill development, science & technology, health and culture; a New Defence and International Security Partnership to deepen collaboration in combating global threats and enhance cooperation in defence, counter terrorism, cyber security, maritime security and organized crime; a Partnership for Cooperation in Third Countries to leverage mutual competencies to assist developing countries in addressing their development challenges; and a Joint Statement on Energy and Climate Change to address climate change and promote affordable and sustainable supplies of energy. Four agreements were also announced in the areas of Ease of Doing Business, Skill Development, Crop Sciences, Climate Change, Agriculture, Antimicrobial Resistance and Vaccine Development. The issue of global terrorism and the regional security situation was discussed. They reaffirmed their commitment to cooperate in countering terrorism and

		extremism and to disrupt support for terrorist networks including ISIL, Al Qaeda, Lashkar-e-Taiba, Hizb-ul-Mujahideen, the Haqqanis and associated groups. They also committed to support early finalisation of a Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism.
31	Turkey (G-20) 15-16 November 2015	<p>Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 10th G20 Summit in Antalya, Turkey on 15-16 November 2015. The Leaders discussed issues of terrorism, refugee crisis, climate change, the 10th WTO Ministerial Conference, global economy, growth and employment and investment strategies, enhancing resilience, financial regulation, international tax, anti-corruption, IMF reforms and energy. The G20 Leaders issued a Communiqué and a standalone statement on Fight Against Terrorism at the Summit. Prime Minister attended a meeting of BRICS Leaders on 15 November 2015 on the margins of the 10th G20 Summit. The leaders exchanged views on the G20 Summit agenda and intra-BRICS issues including the BRICS Strategy for Economic Partnership, the New Development Bank and Contingent Reserve Arrangement.</p> <p>Prime Minister also had bilateral talks with President Erdogan of Turkey.</p>
32	Malaysia (for ASEAN/EAS and Bilateral) 21-23 November 2015	<p>Prime Minister visited Malaysia from 21-23 November, 2015 for the ASEAN–India Summit and East Asia Summit on 21–22 November 2015, followed by bilateral visit on 23.11.2015. Relationship with ASEAN was given further wherewithal inter alia with the announcement of a US\$1 billion Line of Credit to promote projects that support physical and digital connectivity between ASEAN and India. Deliberations at the East Asia Summit gave a further impetus to the Summit on its 10th Anniversary.</p> <p>Prime Minister also held bilateral talks and jointly inaugurated the Torana Gate in Brickfields, Kuala Lumpur, a gift from India to Malaysia, as a symbol of India-Malaysia Friendship. During the visit Agreement on Cultural Exchange Programme for 2015-2020 and two Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on Cooperation in the area of Performance Management, Project Delivery and Monitoring related to Government Programmes & Delivery and on Cooperation in Cyber Security were signed and a Joint Statement of Enhanced Strategic Partnership between the two countries was issued.</p>
33	Singapore 24 November 2015	During the visit relations between the two countries were elevated to a higher level of ‘Strategic Partnership’ Two agreements on defence cooperation and loan of artifacts from India to Singapore, two executive programme/operationalisation documents on arts and culture, and White-Shipping were signed. Five MoUs on cyber security, civil aviation, knowledge exchange in the field of planning, urban planning, and combating drug trafficking were signed.
34	France (for COP-21) 29-30 Nov 2015	Prime Minister visited Paris to attend the Leaders’ Event on 29-30 November 2015 of 21 st session of the Conference of Parties (COP-21) to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) where he outlined India's position on key issues related to climate change negotiations. Prime Minister Modi and French President Hollande jointly launched the International Solar Alliance, to bring together 119 other solar rich countries falling within the two tropics for promotion of solar technology and its applications. Prime Minister also participated in the launch of the US initiative “Mission Innovation”, which is meant to facilitate affordable access to clean energy technologies along with US President Obama, French President Hollande and Mr. Bill Gates.

35	Russia 23-25 December 2015	The visit of Prime Minister to Russia in December 2015 further strengthened bilateral relations, which resulted in several outcomes including signing of MoUs/Agreements in the field of Helicopter Engineering; on simplification of requirements for mutual travels of certain categories of citizens of the two countries; on mutual travel regime for holders of Diplomatic & Official Passports; Localization of Manufacturing in India for Russian-Designed Nuclear Reactor Units; Plan for Cooperation for combating Customs violations in 2015 – 2017; technical cooperation in railway sector; investment cooperation; cooperation for geologic survey, exploration and production of hydrocarbons onshore and on the continental shelf of the Russian Federation; cooperation for geologic survey, exploration and production of hydrocarbons between Rosneft oil company, Oil India Limited and Indian Oil Corporation Limited.
36	Afghanistan 25 December 2015	Prime Minister jointly inaugurated and dedicated to the Afghan people the new Afghan Parliament building with President Ghani. The building was made with Indian assistance. During the visit India also handed over three Mi-25 helicopters to Afghanistan.
37	Pakistan 25 December 2015	Prime Minister's unscheduled visit to Lahore in December 2015 was in the background of his telephone conversation with PM Nawaz Sharif, when he was informed of a wedding in the family of PM Sharif at his native place. PM's visit to Lahore underlined the outreach to Pakistan at the highest level in line with vision to create a normal, peaceful and prosperous neighbourhood.
38	Belgium/EU 30 March-3 April 2016	Prime Minister's visit engaged the leaders of Belgium and EU at the highest political levels after a long gap. Seven Documents were signed with EU including a Joint Statement; Counter Terrorism Cooperation; Agenda 2020; Water Management; Migration and Mobility. First tranche of € 200 million of the total €450 million loan from EIB for the Lucknow Metro project was signed and on Clean Energy and Climate Partnership during the visit. An MoU on Water Partnership with the EU, agreed during the Summit was signed subsequently in October 2016. A Joint Statement was signed with Belgium during the visit. Belgium publicly announced in the Joint Statement, its support for India to become a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council. A MoU on Biotechnology and a Letter of Intent on Shipping Cooperation agreed during the visit was signed subsequently in May 2016. The remote activation of an Indo-Belgian project "ARIES Telescope" at Devasthali, Nantital from Belgium during the visit will boost the R& D in this sector.
39	USA (NSS) 30 March – 3 April 2016	Our participation at the Nuclear Security Summit highlighted India's role and commitment to the global partnership in nuclear security, especially in the context of the long standing engagement with the global non-proliferation order and the role played by India in peaceful uses of nuclear energy. Pursuant to the announcement made by Prime Minister during the Summit, India hosted the Implementation & Assessment Group Meeting of the Global Initiative to Combat Nuclear Terrorism (GICNT), which comprises 86 partner countries and 5 international organisations, in New Delhi on 8-10 February 2017.
40	Saudi Arabia 2 – 3 April 2016	The visit further cemented our strategic partnership and gave a renewed momentum to make this partnership forward-looking. Several agreements/MoUs were signed during the visit, including on Labour Cooperation; Technical Cooperation Program between the Bureau of Indian Standards and the Saudi Standards, Metrology and Quality Organization; Executive Program for Cooperation in the Field of Handicrafts between our Export Promotion Council for Handicrafts and Saudi Commission for Tourism and National Heritage; between Financial Intelligence Unit- India and the Financial Intelligence Unit-Saudi Arabia concerning Cooperation in the Exchange of Intelligence related to Money Laundering, Terrorism Financing and Related Crimes

		and Framework for Investment Promotion Cooperation between Invest India and the Saudi Arabian General Investment Authority. Separately, a Programme of Cooperation between the ICWA and Prince Saud Al Faisal Institute of Diplomatic Studies and MOU between Jeddah-based International Cooperation for Development of Private Sector and EXIM Bank for a commercial line of credit of US\$ 100 million was signed.
41	Iran 22-23 May 2016	<p>Prime Minister paid a state visit to Iran on 22-23 May 2016. During the visit Prime Minister called on the Supreme Leader Grand Ayatollah Sayyid Ali Hosseini Khamenei and held talks with President Rouhani. Both sides held detailed discussions on promoting bilateral cooperation in various fields. They also had an in-depth exchange of views on regional and international issues of mutual interest. During the visit 12 MoUs /Agreements were signed in the field of Cultural Exchange, Science and Technology, between Foreign Ministries, Chabahar Port development, between EXIM Bank and Iran's Ports and Maritime Organisation (PMO), between EXIM Bank and Central Bank of Iran, between ECGC [Export Credit Guarantee Corporation] Limited of India and the Export Guarantee Fund of Iran [EGFI], etc.</p> <p>A trilateral agreement among India, Iran and Afghanistan on Establishing Chabahar Transport and Transit Corridor was also signed during this visit.</p>
42	Afghanistan 4-9 June 2016	During the visit PM Modi jointly inaugurated and dedicated to Afghan people the Afghan-India Friendship Dam in Herat Province of Afghanistan.
43	Qatar 4-5 June 2016	During the visit, in addition to the Joint Statement issued, seven Agreements/MoUs were also signed in the field of Mutual Assistance in Customs Matters; exchange of intelligence related to money laundering, terrorism-financing and related crimes; Skill Development and Recognition of Qualifications; Tourism; Youth and Sports.
44	Switzerland 4-9 June 2016	Prime Minister paid an official visit to Geneva, Switzerland on June 5-6, 2016, a historic visit and the first bilateral visit by an Indian PM to Switzerland in the last several decades. During the visit, the Swiss President announced Swiss support for India's application for NSG membership; the two sides agreed to create an expert group to discuss the modalities of cooperation in AYURVEDA; both sides agreed to reciprocally support each other's bid for non-permanent membership of UNSC for which Switzerland has put its candidature for 2023-2024 and India for 2021-2022. PM invited the Swiss President to pay a return visit to India. The Swiss President is scheduled to visit India in August, 2017.
45	USA 6-8 June 2016	Prime Minister visited the US from 6-8 June 2016 at the invitation of the US President Barack Obama. In addition to the official talks with the US President, Prime Minister addressed the Joint Meeting of the US Congress. Prime Minister also had interactions with business representatives and think-tanks. Prime Minister's other engagements included visit to Arlington Cemetery; call on PM by US Secretary of Defense Ashton Carter and handling over of Indian antiquities to PM by the US Attorney General Loretta Lynch. The visit was aimed at consolidation of progress made in various areas in the last two years under the leadership of Prime Minister and the US President and to intensify cooperation for the future. There were significant and concrete outcomes in key areas of cooperation such as civil nuclear; clean energy; defence and security; politico-strategic engagement; economy and people-to-people ties. A number of documents were also signed/finalized in the run up to the visit.
46	Mexico 9 June 2016	During the visit, Mexico announced its support to India's membership of Nuclear Suppliers Group(NSG). Bilateral relations were upgraded to a strategic partnership.

47	Uzbekistan (SCO Summit) 23-24 June 2016	Prime Minister attended the SCO Summit with India as an Observer State. India signed the Memorandum of Obligations for becoming a member of the SCO. This started the formal procedure for India's entry into the SCO, which is likely to be announced at the SCO Summit in Astana in June 2017.
48	Mozambique 7 July 2016	During the visit the two countries signed Agreements and MOU on cooperation in the field of Production and Marketing of Pigeon Peas, Drug Demand Reduction and Prevention of illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Youth Affairs and Sports. Announcements made during the visit included Gifting of 100 ton medicines and medical equipment; Donation of four buses (Financial Grant \$122000) for S&T Park; Handing over of Armored Personnel Carriers.
49	South Africa 7-9 July 2016	During the visit, the two countries signed Agreements and MOUs on cooperation in the field of Grassroots Innovation; Information and Communication Technologies; Tourism; Arts and Culture.
50	Tanzania 9-10 July 2016	During the visit, the two countries signed Agreements and MOU on cooperation in the field of water, small scale industries, credit line on water, vocational training institute and visa facilities for diplomatic and official visitors between the two sides. Announcements made during the visit included Donation of a radiation therapy machine, 'Bhabhatron II' to Bugando Medical Centre, Mwanza, that was being installed currently and committed to further gifting of essential medicines, ambulances, and medical equipment to Tanzania; Holding of a festival of Indian culture in Tanzania within a year.
51	Kenya 10-11 July 2016	During the visit, the two countries signed Agreements and MOU on cooperation in the field of Housing, Avoidance of Double Taxation, between Bureau of Indian Standards and Kenya Bureau of Standards, exemption of Visa for holders of Diplomatic Passports, development of small and medium enterprises[SMEs], upgrade of Rift Valley Textiles Factory[RIVATEX]. Announcements made during the visit included Gifting of a telecobalt cancer therapy machine – the Bhabhatron II; Donation of essential/ARV medicines and medical equipment and capacity building/training programmes in the health sector; and Festival of India will be hosted in Kenya in October/November 2016.
52	Vietnam 2-3 September 2016	Prime Minister paid an official visit at the invitation of Vietnamese Prime Minister to Vietnam on 2-3 September 2016. Both the sides agreed to elevate their existing Strategic Partnership to Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. During the visit, 12 MoUs/agreements including Cyber Security, Information Technology, Sharing of White Shipping Information, Cooperation in the Exploration and Uses of Outer Space for Peaceful Purposes, Protocol for Amending the Agreement on Avoiding Double Taxation and Protocol on Celebrating the year 2017 as the Year of Friendship were signed. Both sides agreed to effectively implement the Joint Vision Statement on India-Viet Nam Defence Relations of May 2015. Prime Minister reaffirmed India's significant interest in promoting defence industry cooperation between the two sides and committed to provide a new Line of Credit worth of USD 500 million for Vietnam in this area. Prime Minister Modi announced a grant of US\$ 5 million for the construction of an Army Software Park at the Telecommunications University in Nha Trang. It was also agreed to expedite the negotiation and conclusion of the new Inter-Governmental Framework Agreement on Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy. India announced the offer of special annual scholarships for Vietnamese students for advanced Buddhist studies at Masters/Doctoral level courses. The visit has contributed strengthening of our bilateral relationship with Vietnam, which is extremely important and central pillar of India's Act East Policy.
53	China (G-20) 4-5 September 2016	Prime Minister led the Indian delegation to the 11 th G20 Summit in Hangzhou, China on 4-5 September 2016. The leaders discussed the issues of policy coordination and breaking new path for growth, more effective and efficient global economic and

		financial governance, robust international trade and investment, inclusive and interconnected development and other issues affecting world economy. The G20 Leaders issued a Communiqué at the Summit. An Informal Meeting of BRICS Leaders was held on 4 September 2016 on the margins of the G20 Summit in Hangzhou, China. The meeting was chaired by Prime Minister. The Leaders held wide-ranging discussions on the G20 Summit Agenda and agreed to pursue issues of global and mutual interest to the BRICS countries at the G20. Besides, the leaders exchanged views on a wide range of global political, security, economic and global governance issues of importance and mutual concern. The Leaders reiterated their wholehearted commitment to the fight against terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, with the United Nations playing a central role.
54	Laos (ASEAN/EAS) 7-8 September 2016	The ASEAN/EAS Summit steered the relationship towards a more mature partnership with enhanced cooperation in the politico security domain, cooperation in Science and Technology and innovation and mapping of historical and cultural linkages. On the sidelines Prime Minister met with PM of Lao PDR. Both PMs reviewed the existing framework of our bilateral relations and stressed upon enhancing bilateral relations between the two countries.
55	Thailand 10-12 November 2016	Prime Minister made a brief transit visit to Bangkok enroute to Japan to pay respects to the revered Late King Bhumibol Adulyadej of Thailand.
56	Japan 10-12 November 2016	Prime Minister visited Japan from November 10-12, 2016 for the 11 th bilateral Annual Summit Meeting with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe. During the visit, the Prime Minister also had an audience with His Majesty, interacted with the Japanese leadership and captains of the industry. This visit further enhanced the existing ' <i>Special Strategic and Global Partnership</i> ' and elevated the bilateral relationship to a higher pedestal. The two sides also signed the bilateral Civil Nuclear Agreement, indicating the completion of necessary internal procedures. As a contribution to 'Skill India' an MOC in Manufacturing Skill Transfer Promotion Program was signed to train 30,000 persons over the next ten years in Japanese style manufacturing skills in India. Two sides also concluded separate memorandums in space, earth & marine sciences, agriculture & food related industries, infrastructure investments, textiles, cultural exchanges and sports, indicating deepening of ties across wide spectrum of engagements. Ten MoUs/Agreements were signed during the visit.
