

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS

**LOK SABHA**  
**UNSTARRED QUESTION NO.136**  
TO BE ANSWERED ON 18.07.2018

**VISIT BY DIGNITARIES**

136. KUNWAR HARIBANSH SINGH:  
SHRI SUDHEER GUPTA:  
PROF. SAUGATA ROY:  
SHRI GAJANAN KIRTIKAR:  
SHRI VENKATESH BABU T.G.:  
SHRI T. RADHAKRISHNAN:  
SHRI S. RAJENDRAN:  
SHRI BIDYUT BARAN MAHATO:  
SHRI ASHOK SHANKARRAO CHAVAN:  
SHRI S. R. VIJAYAKUMAR:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

- (a) the details of foreign dignitaries who visited India during each of the last four months and the current month, country-wise;
- (b) the details of the foreign trips undertaken by the Prime Minister of India, External Affairs Minister and other dignitaries during the said period;
- (c) the areas identified for co-operation, discussions held and agreement/MoUs signed during the said visits; and
- (d) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the bilateral relations with foreign countries?

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

- (a) to (d) Information as desired is placed at Annexure I & II.

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## Visits by Dignitaries (Foreign)

S. No .	The details of foreign dignitaries who visited India during each of the last four months and the current month, country-wise (a)	The areas identified for co-operation, discussions held and agreement/MoUs signed during the said visits (c)	The steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the bilateral relations with foreign countries (d)
1	<u>March 02-04, 2018</u>  Visit of President of Vietnam  [Bilateral]	Areas identified for cooperation were Defence and security, economic relations, development cooperation, energy cooperation, culture, education and people-to-people exchanges, connectivity, regional cooperation, multilateral cooperation  The President held discussion with Hon'ble President, held delegation level talks with Hon'ble Prime Minister. President Tran Dai Quang received Hon'ble Speaker of Lok Sabha Smt. Sumitra Mahajan and Hon'ble Minister of External Affairs Smt. Sushma Swaraj. He also addressed the Viet Nam - India Business Forum and held discussions with several prominent leaders of Indian industry and business.  MoUs signed: Three agreements in the areas of trade, agriculture and atomic energy were signed	To boost our overall bilateral relations, it was agreed to maintain regular exchange of visits at all levels, promote people to people contacts, also hold the next Joint Committee Meeting led by the foreign ministers of the two countries in 2018 itself.
2	<u>March 05-08, 2018</u>  Visit of Foreign Minister of Malta  [Bilateral]	Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Promotion of Malta, H.E. Mr. Carmelo Abela, visited India from 5-8 March 2018. He was accompanied by senior officials of his Ministry and a large business delegation.  Minister Abela had a meeting with External Affairs Minister, Smt Sushma Swaraj, in New Delhi on 6 March 2018. The Ministers had discussions on various aspects of bilateral ties as well as important regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest. The discussions focused on building closer cooperation in the areas of trade & investment, trade fairs, financial services, information technology and tourism.  During the visit, Minister Abela participated in the fourth edition of India Europe 29 Business Forum (IE29BF) in New Delhi on 5 March. MEA has been organizing IE29BF for past few years for promoting India's economic ties with Central European countries.	Cooperate on maintaining people-to-people contact and high emphasis on cultural exchanges and tourism.  Second round of Foreign office Consultations were held in Malta in Apr 2018.
3	<u>March 09-12, 2018</u> Visit of President	President of Bangladesh led the Bangladeshi delegation to the International Solar Alliance Summit in New Delhi from March 9-12, 2018. During the visit,	The State visit of Bangladesh President to India helped further foster the strong and friendly bilateral relations

	of Bangladesh [International Solar Alliance Summit]	he also met with Rashtrapatiji and PM in New Delhi for bilateral discussions. He visited Guwahati and Shillong where he met with Chief Ministers and Governors of the respective States during the visit.	between India and Bangladesh. During the visit, the leaders reaffirmed their commitment to enhance bilateral cooperation in all sectors of mutual interest.
4	<u>March 09-12, 2018</u>  Visit of President of France  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>Cooperation in areas of maritime security, defence, counter-terrorism, space, civil nuclear cooperation, climate change, S&amp;T, railways, smart cities and education were discussed. The two leaders jointly launched the International Solar Alliance. 14 MoUs were signed:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Agreement between India and France regarding the Provision of Reciprocal Logistic Support between Armed Forces</li> <li>2. Agreement between India and France regarding the Exchange and Reciprocal Protection of Classified or Protected Information</li> <li>3. Agreement between India and France on Cooperation in the field of sustainable and urban development</li> <li>4. MoU between National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) and The National Solar Energy Institute (INES), CEA- France</li> <li>5. Bilateral Agreement between India &amp; (SHOM) France relating to Cooperation in the matter of Hydrography and Maritime Cartography</li> <li>6. Credit Facility Agreement and Grant Financing Agreement between AFD and DoEA</li> <li>7. MoU between Ministry of Railways and SNCF France on Technical cooperation in the field of Railways</li> <li>8. Implementing Agreement between ISRO and CNES-France for Pre-Formulation Studies of a Maritime Awareness Mission</li> <li>9. MoU between India and France in the field of Environment</li> <li>10. LOI between Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Ecological and Inclusive Transition of the French Govt for creation of a Permanent Indo-French Railways Forum</li> <li>11. Agreement between India and France to facilitate Mutual Recognition of Academic Qualifications</li> <li>12. Industrial way forward Agreement between NPCIL and EDF France on implementation of Jaitapur Nuclear Power Plant(NPP) EPR Units 1-6</li> <li>13. MOU on Illicit consumption and reduction of illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic substances and Chemical precursors and related offences between India and France</li> <li>14. Migration and Mobility Partnership Agreement between India &amp; France</li> <li>15. At the founding ceremony of the ISA, leaders released the Delhi Solar Declaration</li> </ol>	<p>India and France have a 20 year old Strategic Partnership. This is the oldest partnership of India in Europe, with continued and increased collaboration in a wide range of fields. Our traditional cooperation in the areas of maritime security, defence, counter-terrorism, space and nuclear cooperation have been expanded over the years to include new areas of engagement such as climate change, S&amp;T, railways, smart cities and education.</p> <p>Aside from high level visits between the countries in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, the leaders of the two countries have met and discussed topics of national and international importance on the side-lines of several events.</p>
5	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of President of Djibouti	H.E. Mr. Ismail Omar Guelleh, President of Republic of Djibouti led a delegation to participate in the Founding Conference of the International Solar Alliance on 11th March 2018. Participation from Republic of Djibouti at the level of Head of State displayed the strong bonds between the two countries	Government of India is making considerable efforts to enhance cooperation with Djibouti. State visit of Rashtrapatiji to Djibouti in October 2017 was the first ever State visit at the level of HOS/HOG from India to Djibouti

	[International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>and will enhance our long standing bilateral relations.</p> <p>President of Republic of Djibouti also addressed the plenary session of International Solar Alliance Founding Conference in New Delhi on 11th March.</p> <p>Hon'ble PM Shri Narendra Modi and President of Djibouti, Ismail Omar Guelleh, met on the sidelines of the Founding Conference of ISA. Leaders discussed capacity building, developmental cooperation, climate change and solar energy projects.</p> <p>No MoU/Agreement was signed during the visit.</p>	<p>to elevate bilateral relations between the two countries. During the visit various issues of commons concern and interest such as terrorism, renewable energy, maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean Region and technical and capacity building assistance by India to enhance employment opportunities in Djibouti were discussed. An agreement to establish regular political consultations between India and Djibouti, at the level of Foreign Office, was also signed.</p> <p>India is offering various scholarships/trainings to Djibouti under ITEC/ICCR/IAFS-III schemes. Djiboutian Diplomats are also going to India for training courses conducted by FSTI, MEA. Under Lines of Credits, LoC of USD 49.13 million has been approved for Ali Sabieh Cement Project. India is also supporting a SME incubation centre in Djibouti and a Grant of USD 5 million was disbursed in January 2017. Another request for LoC of USD 35 million for this project is under process.</p>
6	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Guyana</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p><u>Bilateral</u></p> <p>(i) Guyana's President informed that they would be celebrating 180th Anniversary of Indians Arrival in Guyana this year.</p> <p>(ii) President of Guyana called for Indian investment in Guyana for</p>	<p>(i) In order to boost the relations with Guyana, regular interaction at political level has been taking place.</p> <p>(ii) India provides training to Guyanese under ITEC (Indian Technical and Economic programme) every year.</p> <p>(iii) Numerous development projects are being financed in Guyana under Line of Credit (LoC). India also provides need-based developmental assistance to Guyana under extended concessional lines of credit.</p> <p>(iv) India under LoC has done some prominent projects in Guyana such for improvement of infrastructural projects.</p> <p>(v) India is also setting up an IT Centre of Excellence in Guyana, an agreement for which has been signed.</p> <p>(vi) India and Guyana have signed MOUs on Cooperation in the field of Renewable Energy and Cultural Exchange Programme.</p>

		<p>infrastructural development.</p> <p>(iii) India offered help in upgrading the sugar industry as per Guyana's need for development.</p>	
7	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Mali</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 150 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Mali at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <p>50 MW Solar Power Plant in FANA, Mali</p> <p>Development of 2500 hectares to be irrigated through solar power</p> <p>Construction of 2 MWc Solar Photovoltaic plants in Mopti</p>
8	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Sri Lanka</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 100 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Sri Lanka at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Development of 200,000 rooftop solar units for low income families</li> <li>• Establishment of rooftop solar units in hospitals, schools, colleges and other government establishments</li> </ul>
9	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 7.6 million were announced under</p>

	<p>Visit of President of Seychelles</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	<p>GoI-LOCs for Seychelles at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar LED street lighting project in Mahe, Praslin and La Digue</li> <li>• Solar Rooftop PV Project for Government Buildings in Seychelles</li> <li>• 2 MW (1MWx2) Solar Power Plant with Battery Storage in Praslin and La Digue</li> </ul>
10	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Burkina Faso</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>Discussions with Burkina Faso were held on the following projects:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 2X50 MW solar power projects</li> <li>• Renovation of main hospital and assistance in development of production of medicines in Ouagadougou</li> <li>• Construction of railway line (Burkina Faso to Ghana)</li> <li>• Setting up of Agro-processing industries</li> <li>• Solar power water station for semi urban water supply (proposal received through EBID)</li> </ul>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 36.50 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Burkina Faso at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar powered water stations for semi-urban water supply</li> </ul>
11	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Ghana</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 41.1 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Ghana at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Solar powered Street Lighting Project</li> <li>• Solar powered mini-grids for island and forest zone communities</li> </ul>

		<p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p>Discussions with the Ghanaian side were held on further cooperation in solar energy, street lighting, fertilizers etc.</p>	
12	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Togo</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p>Discussions were held with Togo on enhancing cooperation in food processing, SMEs and fertilizers</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 40 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Togo at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrification of 350 villages through solar photovoltaic systems</li> </ul>
13	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Nauru</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>Bilateral and Economic Cooperation, Setting up of Centre for Excellence in Information Technology (CEIT), New and renewable energy cooperation especially solar energy, Strengthening of Forum of India Pacific Island Cooperation (FIPIC), Multilateral cooperation, People to People exchange programme, Development Assistance Partnership programme</p>	<p>It was agreed to boost overall bilateral and economic relation. It was also agreed to expedite establishment of CEIT. Cooperation in the field of solar energy to be enhanced. Regular exchange of visits at all levels to be encouraged. Government of India encouraged Nauru to utilize unspent amount of Grant-in-Aid. It was agreed to promote people-to-people contact by easing visa regulations. Government of India encouraged availing benefits of short-term courses under Indian Technical and Economic</p>

			Cooperation (ITEC) programme.
14	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u> Visit of President of Gabon  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p>Discussions were held with Gabon on ways to enhance bilateral cooperation in the fields of mining, infrastructure, fertilizers etc. President of the Republic of Gabon also thanked India for the decision to establish Mahatma Gandhi Convention Centre in Libreville.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Proposals by Gabon are being considered in the Government of India. NBCC team has visited Libreville in June, 2018 in connection with establishment of MGCC.</li> <li>A team from Rashtriya Chemicals &amp; Fertilizers visited Gabon recently to explore the possibility of setting up of a Fertilizer Plant.</li> <li>High level visits from India are currently under active consideration.</li> </ul>
15	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u> Visit of President of Rwanda  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 122 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Rwanda at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>30 MW ( 2 x15 MW) Solar power project with storage capacity for supplying power to the National Grid</li> <li>Solar Mini-Grids for 50 centralised off-grid areas, 200 Public institutions and 200 Business centres</li> </ul>



		<p><u>Bilateral</u></p> <p>A bilateral meeting between Hon'ble PM and President Paul Kagame was held on the side-lines of the ISA Founding Conference. The meeting provided an opportunity to discuss ways and means to further strengthen bilateral cooperation.</p> <p>Government of Rwanda was urged to identify projects in the solar energy sector that could be executed by Indian firms. Offer for funding under Lines of Credit was also made.</p>	
16	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Comoros</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	
17	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President of Venezuela</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification,</p>	

		street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.	
<b>18</b>	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Representative of President of Guinea Bissau  [Guinea Bissau was represented by their Ambassador to India resident in Beijing at the ISA Founding Conference]  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	Cabinet has approved opening of a resident Indian Mission in Guinea Bissau in March, 2018.
<b>19</b>	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of President of Niger  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p>The Government of Niger has indicated its interest in availing of Line of Credit facility for three of its projects relating to Solar electrification of</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 38.2 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Niger at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Electrification of 250 villages through solar photovoltaic systems</li> </ul> <p>The Nigerien Foreign Ministry and the Indian Embassy in Niamey are collaborating on capacity building programmes under ITEC and IAFS schemes. Two Line of Credit projects have been completed and work on two more LoC projects are actively progressing and are expected to be completed by October 2018. Some more LoC projects are being considered for approval etc. Two bilateral Agreements viz., Protocol for Consultations and Setting up of Joint Commission are also likely to be signed in the coming months.</p>

		villages, Solar electrification of strategic buildings, hospitals, maternity centres and blood transfusion centres and supply of 36000 solar cooking kits spreading over a five year period. The requests are being further discussed.	
20	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of President of Madagascar  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	
21	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of President of Equatorial Guinea  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p><u>Bilateral</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PM assured President of Equatorial Guinea that India will open a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet has approved opening of a resident Indian Mission in Equatorial Guinea.</li> <li>Directions given from MEA to PMI, New York to assist EG during its UNSC tenure.</li> </ul> <p>On the invitation of President of Equatorial Guinea, Rashtrapati Ji visited EG from April 7-9, 2018. During the visit, MOU on Cooperation in the field of Traditional Medicine, MOU On Cooperation on Medicinal Plants and Action Plan on ICT were signed between the two countries.</p>

		<p>diplomatic Mission in Malabo.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• PM offered to assist EG in any manner at the UN during its UNSC tenure.</li> <li>•</li> </ul>	
22	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of Governor General of Australia</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>H.E. Sir Peter Cosgrove, Governor General of Australia represented Australia at the International Solar Alliance Founding Summit at New Delhi on 11<sup>th</sup> March 2018. During the meeting with the Governor General on the sidelines of the ISA Summit, Prime Minister of India congratulated Australia on joining the International Solar Alliance as one of its founding members and expressed appreciation for Australia's efforts in promoting solar energy.</p>	<p>Both Governments agreed to promote trade and investment, cooperate in the area of counter-terrorism, energy, education, innovation and solar energy. Both Governments also agreed to continue the high level exchanges.</p>
23	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of Vice President of Ivory Coast</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p><u>Bilateral</u></p> <p>Discussions were held on ways to increase bilateral trade and increase cooperation in processing of cashew, cotton and rubber.</p>	
24	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of Vice President of Suriname</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included;</p>	<p>India and Suriname are actively committed to promote the use of clean and renewable energy to deal with the challenge of climate change.</p>

		<p>combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p><u>Bilateral</u></p> <p>Suriname expressed their intention to work with CII to develop the project in solar energy.</p>	
25	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of Chairman of the Crown Prince Court, UAE</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	
26	<p><u>March 10-11, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of Prime Minister of Chad</p> <p>[International Solar Alliance Summit]</p>	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 27.45 million were announced under GoI-LOCs for Chad at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Establishment of a Solar PV module manufacturing plant at N'djamena</li> </ul> <p>At the request of Government of Chad, Government of India has agreed to restructure the LOC extended to the tune of USD 50 million and USD 15.9 million by extending the moratorium and repayment schedules.</p>

		<p>solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p> <p>Chad PM requested for restructuring of LoC extended to Chad. Discussions were held on enhancing energy access, integration of renewable into grid, oil and gas sector, etc. Chad PM requested visa facilities in Chad.</p>	Cabinet has approved opening of a resident Indian Mission in Chad.
27	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister of Fiji  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	Bilateral and Economic Cooperation, Development of Fiji Sugar Cooperation Railway Network, Support for upcoming election in Fiji in September, 2018, New and renewable energy cooperation especially solar energy, Strengthening of Forum of India Pacific Island Cooperation (FIPIC), Multilateral cooperation, People to People exchange programme, Development Assistance Partnership programme	It was agreed to boost overall bilateral and economic relation. It was agreed to provide assistance for development of Fiji Sugar Cooperation Railway Network. Assistance will be provided by GOI for Fijian election. Enhance cooperation in the field of solar energy. Regular exchange of visits at all levels to be encouraged. It was agreed to promote people-to-people contact by easing visa regulations. Government of India encouraged availing benefits of short-term courses under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.
28	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister of Tuvalu  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	Bilateral and Economic Cooperation, Setting up of CEIT, New and renewable energy cooperation especially solar energy, Strengthening of Forum of India Pacific Island Cooperation (FIPIC), Multilateral Forum Cooperation, People to People exchange programme, Development Assistance Partnership programme, Strengthening and Promotion of Cultural Bonds	It was agreed to boost overall bilateral and economic relation. It was also agreed to expedite establishment of CEIT. Cooperation in the field of solar energy to be enhanced. Regular exchange of visits at all levels to be encouraged. Government of India encouraged Tuvalu to utilize unspent amount of Grant-in-Aid. It was agreed to promote people-to-people contact by easing visa regulations. Government of India encouraged availing benefits of short-term courses under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme.
29	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister of Vanuatu  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	Bilateral and Economic Cooperation, Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), Setting up of CEIT, New and renewable energy cooperation especially solar energy, Strengthening of Forum of India Pacific Island Cooperation (FIPIC), Multilateral Forum Cooperation, People to People exchange programme, Development Assistance Partnership programme, Strengthening and Promotion of Cultural Bonds	It was agreed to boost overall bilateral and economic relation. Government of India assured support for evacuation and re-settlement of people affected by eruption of volcano. Cooperation in the field of solar energy to be enhanced. Regular exchange of visits at all levels to be encouraged. Government of India encouraged Vanuatu to utilize unspent amount of Grant-in-Aid. It was agreed to promote people-to-people contact by easing visa regulations. Government of India encouraged availing benefits of short-term courses under Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation (ITEC) programme. Encourage exchange of cultural troupes to promote culture.

30	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of Vice Prime Minister of Congo  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	<p>Solar Projects worth USD 148.19 were announced under GoI-LOCs for Congo at the ISA founding conference. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Building of 10 MW Lualaba's Provincial Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant and Public Electricity Network at Kolwezi</li> <li>• Building of 15 MW Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant and Public Electricity Network at Karawa</li> <li>• Building of 15 MW Oriental Kasai's Provincial Solar Photovoltaic Power Plant and Public Electricity Network at Mbuji-Mayi</li> </ul>
31	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of Deputy Prime Minister of Mauritius  [International Solar Alliance Summit]	<p>The founding conference of the International Solar alliance took place on 11 March 2018, at New Delhi. The conference was attended by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, the President of France, 21 Heads of State and Heads of Government, 6 Vice Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers, 19 Ministers as Heads of Delegation, along with many other ministers. During the conference, India committed to extend nearly USD 1.4 billion worth of lines of credit which will cover 27 projects in 15 countries.</p> <p>The areas identified for cooperation during the conference, included; combating climate change, affordable finance, access to appropriate, clean and environment friendly technology, exploring innovative financing mechanisms, facilitating joint 'Research and Development' efforts, scaling up of off-grid solar energy, enhancing energy access in small island states and ISA as a catalyst for SDG number 7. Collaborative efforts in areas pertaining to solar PV power plants, mini grid and off grid usage, irrigation, rural electrification, street lighting, solar power for urban infrastructure including for health, hospitals, colleges, schools, government establishments, low income families etc, were also discussed.</p>	
32	<u>March 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of Deputy Prime Minister of Somalia	<p>The areas of discussions included lines of credit to specific solar energy projects, specific solar projects in their respective countries. The range of proposals included discussions about the projects in areas such as rural electrification, solar electricity in important buildings and structures, water supply, electrification of villages, irrigation, street lighting and off grid usage of solar energy, solar applications etc.</p>	<p>Somali side will shortly be sharing with us the details of the identified solar projects under the ISA Framework Agreement.</p>



	[International Solar Alliance Summit]		
33	<u>March 22-24, 2018</u>  Visit of Foreign Minister of Egypt  [Bilateral]	<p>Four sub-committees were created based on the areas of cooperation:</p> <p>(i) Trade and Economic Cooperation (ii) Science and Technology Cooperation (iii) Information Technology (iv) Cultural Cooperation</p> <p>Egyptian side invited India to participate in Suez Canal Special Economic Zone.</p> <p>MoU between General Authority for Investment and Free Zones (Egypt) and Invest India was signed.</p>	<p>(i) Both the FMs urged authorities to finalize a list of 13 MoUs mentioned in the minute of 7<sup>th</sup> JCM</p> <p>(ii) Both the sides agreed to hold JCM biannually and annual follow up mechanism through SOM (Next in Cairo in 2019 &amp; JCM in Cairo 2020)</p> <p>(iii) A proposal to establish a new VTC under IAFS was agreed to.</p> <p>(iv) Both sides agreed to enhance cooperation to a new level in a number of areas including CT, S&amp;T, Military.</p>
34	<u>March 22-26, 2018</u>  State visit of President of Germany  [Bilateral]	<p>India and Germany have established strategic partnership since 2000 and both the governments have endeavoured to broaden and deepen this special relationship.</p> <p>Our current priorities in most areas match with German expertise, such as Renewable Energy, Skills Development, Smart City, Water &amp; Waste Management, cleaning of rivers, Railways, etc.</p> <p>No MoU/Agreement was signed during the visit of President Frank Walter Steinmeier.</p>	<p>Inter-Governmental Consultation Mechanism (IGC) which is co-chaired by Hon'ble PM and German Chancellor is already in place and both the sides meet regularly at highest levels. Besides this, there are a number of active Joint Working Groups (JWGs).</p>
35	<u>April 06-08, 2018</u>  State visit of Prime Minister of Nepal  [Bilateral]	<p>During the State visit of Prime Minister of Nepal to India, the Prime Minister of India and Nepal took the landmark decision to develop the following specific areas:</p> <p>(a) New Partnership in Agriculture; (b) Connecting Raxaul in India to Kathmandu in Nepal; and (c) New connectivity between India and Nepal through Inland Waterways.</p> <p>The two PMs inaugurated the Integrated Check Post at Birgunj in Nepal and also witnessed the ground-breaking ceremony of the Motihari-Amlekhgunj cross-border petroleum products pipeline at Motihari, India.</p> <p>They comprehensively reviewed the bilateral ties and discussed ways and means to further advance ongoing cooperation in sectors such as trade, economic, investments, water resources, energy cooperation, connectivity, security, post-earthquake reconstruction efforts, culture, education and people-to-people ties. No inter-governmental agreements were signed during the visit.</p>	<p>India and Nepal share a strong multi-faceted relationship encompassing political, economic, cultural, developmental ties and strong people to people linkages. The Government of India is committed to further strengthening these linkages, including through exchange of high-level visits, regular meetings of official mechanisms, visits at officials/ technical levels. Apart from working closely with Government of Nepal, engagement and contacts at the business community and people's level have also been continuously encouraged to boost the bilateral ties.</p>
36	<u>May 01-04, 2018</u>  Visit of Foreign	<p>H.E. Mr. Ivica Dacic, First Deputy Prime Minister &amp; Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Serbia visited India from 01-04 May 2018.</p> <p>Minister Ivica Dacic had a meeting with EAM in New Delhi on 03 May 2018.</p>	<p>Cooperate on maintaining people-to-people contact and high emphasis on cultural exchanges and tourism.</p>



	Minister of Serbia [Bilateral]	<p>The two Ministers discussed a range of bilateral, regional and global issues of common interest. They took stock of progress made in bilateral cooperation in key areas, particularly trade &amp; investment, agriculture &amp; food processing, science &amp; technology, information technology, defence, health &amp; pharmaceuticals, culture and tourism.</p> <p>An Agreement on cooperation in the field of culture, sports, youth and mass media was signed by the two Ministers.</p>	Existing mechanisms for cooperation – Foreign Office Consultations, Joint Economic Committee, Agriculture Joint Commission, Joint Committee on S&T and JWG on IT & Electronics.
37	<u>May 24-25, 2018</u>  Visit of the Prime Minister of Netherlands  [Bilateral]	<p>Cooperation in the field of agriculture, food processing, water, technology, smart city development, cyberspace, healthcare, clean energy, finance was discussed. The two leaders welcomed the opening of the new Dutch consulate in Bengaluru. India welcomed the Netherlands as the Partner Country for Tech Summit in 2019.</p> <p>Areas of cooperation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>There is successful bilateral research cooperation between India's Department of Science and Technology, Department of Bio technology and Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology with Netherlands Organization for Scientific Research (NWO) and the Netherlands Enterprise Agency.</li> <li>Joint effort by relevant health departments and agencies in identifying the areas of cooperation under India's National Action Plan on AMR.</li> </ul> <p>The two countries have joined hands in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Waste 2 wealth approach to solid waste and waste water in the Hindon Basin</li> <li>In assisting leather industries in Kanpur and Unnao to adopt eco-friendly technologies.</li> <li>In conversation of water through efficient agriculture practices in the sugarcane industry of UP.</li> </ul> <p>MoUs signed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Between Hague Security Delta and Hyderabad Security Cluster on Cyber security</li> <li>Between Foreign Service Institutes of two countries.</li> </ul> <p>48 B2B MoUs/Agreements were also signed across sectors including knowledge institutions, water, agrifood and horticulture, IT, life sciences and health, smart cities, business and sustainability.</p> <p>A StartUpLink initiative by Invest India and Netherlands Embassy was launched.</p>	<p>India and Netherlands have excellent relations marked by strong economic and commercial ties, based on foundation of shared democratic ideals, pluralism. Both countries have constantly striven to strengthen bilateral relations by leveraging each other's strengths and are currently collaborating in strengthening and expanding the framework of cooperation in various areas like trade and investment, science and technology, information and communication technology, education multiculturalism and rule of law.</p> <p>There have been high level visits between the countries in 2004, 2006 and 2007.</p>
38	<u>May 25-26, 2018</u>  Visit of the Prime Minister of	<p>Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina visited Shantiniketan and Asansol in West Bengal to inaugurate the Bangladesh Bhaban at the Visva Bharati University and receive an Honorary D. Litt from Kazi Nazrul University in Asansol. During the visit she participated in the Convocation Ceremony of the</p>	<p>The visit was focussed on the cultural and people-to-people ties between India and Bangladesh. The interactions during the visit allowed us to discuss matters of mutual interest.</p>

	Bangladesh [Bilateral]	Visva Bharati University along with PM Modi in his capacity of Acharya of the University. She also held discussions with PM and subsequently with the Chief Minister of West Bengal.	
39	<u>May 28, 2018</u>  Visit of Foreign Minister of Iran  [Bilateral]	FM Zarif briefed about the discussions that Iran has undertaken with parties to the Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action following the US decision to withdraw from the Agreement.  FM Zarif and EAM further assessed the implementation of decisions taken during the visit of President Rouhani to India. These included bilateral cooperation in the areas of connectivity, energy, trade and promotion of people to people contacts.	Iran has ratified and completed all legal formalities with respect to Trilateral Agreement between India, Iran and Afghanistan (Chabahar Agreement). It would come into force w.e.f. July 25, 2018.
40	<u>May 28-30, 2018</u>  Visit of Queen Maxima of Netherlands  [Bilateral]	The PM briefed Queen Maxima of the initiatives taken in the field of Financial Inclusion and how it was benefitting the masses. Various schemes like Jan Dhan, Aadhar and Mobile connectivity were highlighted.	As suggested by Queen Maxima setting up of a Center of Excellence (CoE) by NITI Aayog in partnership with Ministry of Finance and Ministry of External Affairs to share India's experience in the area of financial inclusion is being explored.
41	<u>June 22-27, 2018</u>  State Visit of the President of Seychelles  [Bilateral]	6 MoUs were signed during the visit 1.A Memorandum of Understanding between India and Seychelles regarding Indian Grant Assistance for Implementation of Small Development Projects 2.MOU between the Foreign Service Institute of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India and the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Seychelles to train diplomats from Seychelles. 3.A twinning Agreement between the City of Panaji (Municipal Corporation) of India and the City of Victoria of Seychelles 4. MOU on Cyber Security 5. Cultural Exchange Programme for the years 2018-2022 6.Technical Agreement on Sharing White Shipping Information  PM also announced a USD 100 million Line of Credit for defence procurements for Seychelles from India.	High Level exchange of visits steer our relations. All Presidents of Seychelles have visited India. Prime Minister of India visited Seychelles in March 2015, the first Indian Prime Minister to visit the island nation in 34 years. This was closely followed by President Michel's visit in August 2015 to India. Both the visits were highly substantive with over ten agreements signed. The current President of Seychelles Danny Faure met PM twice in two months – on the sidelines of ISA Founding Conference (March 2018) in New Delhi and CHOGM (April 2018) in London. Defence Cooperation is a significant aspect of our relations with Seychelles. An elaborate architecture of defence & security cooperation consolidated over the last four decades ranging from maritime security, anti-piracy operations and air surveillance to training and capacity building is in place. Over 50% of Seychelles' maritime and air assets and around 70% of capacity development in terms of training, exercises and human resources expertise are being provided by India. We have gifted significant military equipment to Seychelles.
42	<u>June 24-30, 2018</u>  Visit of Foreign Minister of UAE  [Bilateral]	The visit provided an opportunity to the two sides to constructively build on the vision of the comprehensive strategic partnership and to fast track decisions on cooperation in the areas of trade and investment, defence & security, energy including renewable energy, cultural, consular and community welfare issues, among others.  MOU on cooperation in diplomatic studies and training between the FSI and	

		Emirates Diplomatic Academy was signed during the visit.	
43	<u>July 05-07, 2018</u>  Visit of the Prime Minister of Bhutan  [Bilateral]	<p>During the visit of Prime Minister of Bhutan, discussions were held on a range of bilateral and regional issues of mutual interest. Both sides reviewed the development co-operation between India and Bhutan under its 11th Five Year Plan and continued Government of India's assistance for Bhutan's socio-economic development. The progress of hydro-power co-operation between both countries including GoI-assisted hydropower projects in Bhutan was also reviewed. As India and Bhutan celebrate the golden jubilee of establishment of formal diplomatic relations in the year 2018, the various commemorative activities planned to be held throughout the year were also reviewed.</p> <p>No MoUs/Agreements were signed during the visit.</p>	<p>India and Bhutan share excellent bilateral relations characterized by utmost trust and mutual understanding. India-Bhutan bilateral co-operation encompass a wide range of sectors including economic and development co-operation, hydropower co-operation, border management, culture, education, training and capacity building and people to people linkages. The special and unique relations between India and Bhutan are sustained by regular high level exchanges, meeting of bilateral mechanisms, and visits from both sides.</p> <p>As Bhutan's development partner, a number of development projects have been implemented under GoI's committed development assistance under Bhutan's 11th Five Year Plan of amount of INR 5000 Cr, including INR 500 Cr for Economic Stimulus Plan. GoI will continue to partner with Bhutan in its socio-economic development, as per latter's priorities.</p> <p>India-Bhutan share a robust co-operation in hydropower sector. Three GoI assisted hydro-electric projects Punatsangchhu-1, Punatsangchhu -2 and Mangdechhu are currently under implementation in Bhutan.</p> <p>Apart from developmental assistance, India enjoys close partnership with Bhutan focussing in areas such as space, information technology, education, infrastructure, energy, training and capacity building initiatives.</p>
44	<u>July 08-11, 2018</u>  State Visit of the President of Republic of Korea  [Bilateral]	<p>President of the Republic of Korea (RoK) Mr. Moon Jae-in paid a State Visit to India from July 8-11, 2018.</p> <p>A number of measures to further expand bilateral cooperation in political, strategic, economic, cultural and people to people domain were discussed.</p> <p>Both sides agreed to intensify leadership level contact, including through biennial visit by the leaders of the two countries. The two countries agreed to expand cooperation to third countries, beginning with capacity building programmes in Afghanistan.</p> <p>An Early Harvest Package was announced that would pave the way for upgrading the existing India-ROK Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement [CEPA] by liberalizing trade in a number of priority items to take advantage of each others economic complementarities and further expand bilateral trade.</p>	<p>India- RoK relations, marked by the entry into force of the Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement in 2010 and the establishment of the 'Special Strategic Partnership' in 2015, have developed steadily on the basis of high-level exchanges and deepening economic relations. ROK is an important partner in India's economic development and many of our flagship initiatives such as 'Make in India', 'Digital India', 'Skill India' etc.</p> <p>ROK's New Southern Policy aims to strengthen its relationship with India. Similarly, India's Act East Policy sees ROK as a natural partner for peace and stability in the region. Accordingly, both sides are committed to working together to develop and deepen their bilateral relations based on shared values and interests.</p>

		<p>The two sides also discussed new initiatives to foster closer people-to-people ties through youth exchange programmes, internships and facilitation of tourism and business through simplified visa procedures. A bilateral Cultural Exchange Programme was also concluded.</p> <p>The two sides agreed to jointly set up an India-RoK Research and Innovation Cooperation Center and a Future Strategy Group to prepare our economies for the Fourth Industrial Revolution through cooperation in new and cutting edge technologies.</p> <p>The following MoU's were signed during the visit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joint Statement on Early Harvest Package of the Upgraded Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA)</li> <li>2. MoU on Trade Remedies</li> <li>3. MoU on Future Strategy Group</li> <li>4. Cultural Exchange Programme for the period 2018 – 2022.</li> <li>5. MoU on cooperation in the field of scientific and technological research between Council for Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR) and National Research Council of Science and Technology (NST)</li> <li>6. MoU on cooperation between Research Design and Standards Organization (RDSO) and Korea Railroad Research Institute (KRRI)</li> <li>7. MoU on cooperation in the field of biotechnology and bio-economics.</li> <li>8. MoU on cooperation in the field of ICT and Telecommunications.</li> <li>9. MoU on cooperation in the field of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises between India and RoK.</li> <li>10. MoU between Government of Gujarat and Korea Trade Promotion Agency (KOTRA)</li> <li>11. MoU regarding the Queen Suriratna Memorial Project</li> </ol>	
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## Visits by Dignitaries (Indian)

S. No.	The details of the foreign trips undertaken by the Prime Minister of India, External Affairs Minister and other dignitaries (President & Vice President) during the said period (b)	The areas identified for co-operation, discussions held and agreement/MoUs signed during the said visits (c)	the steps taken/being taken by the Government to boost the bilateral relations with foreign countries (d)
1	<u>March 11-13, 2018</u>  Visit of President to Mauritius	1. The following agreements /MoUs were signed during President's visit : i) MoU between Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), Mauritius and Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), India ii) MoU on the establishment of Nalanda University iii) MoU for establishment of an Academic Chair in Ayurveda at the University of Mauritius iv) Cultural Exchange Programme for the period 2018-2021 2. 100 mn. Defence LoC for defence procurement from India was announced during the visit.	The Government has been taking various measures to strengthen the bilateral relations with Mauritius including implementation of various projects such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Construction of World Hindi Sectt. In Mauritius,</li> <li>• Supply of e-tablets to primary school children in Mauritius,</li> <li>• Construction of Civil Service College,</li> <li>• Metro projects,</li> <li>• ENT Hospital,</li> <li>• New Supreme Court building and social housing for poor.</li> </ul>
2	<u>March 14-15, 2018</u>  Visit of President to Madagascar	Areas/projects Identified for Cooperation: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Both countries to intensify their cooperation in the United Nations and other multilateral fora in order to address current global challenges such as climate change and to foster international and regional peace &amp; security and sustainable development; for an urgent need for the reform of the UN Security Council.</li> <li>India grants LOC request of USD 80.72 million for the agricultural development and farm mechanization project; the decision of Government of India to grant Category I terms and conditions for the Indian LoCs for Madagascar</li> <li>India to provide grant assistance of 1000 Metric Tonnes of Rice, Bhabhatron-II Cancer therapy medicine, gift of medicines (approx. 100 tonnes), one hundred thousand NCERT text books of English, Maths and Science for Malagasy schools, deputation of English &amp; IT teachers, grant assistance of computers and peripherals to University</li> </ol>	<p>Good progress is being made for implementing the various projects/initiatives identified and announced during the visit. There is great potential for enhancement and expansion of mutual trade relations, both the Leaders emphasized the need for enhanced private sector investments from India to Madagascar in a wide range of important sectors. President of Madagascar His Excellency Hery Rajaonarimampianina expressed keenness to provide further incentives to investors in Madagascar including simplification of business visas to Indian businesspersons on a reciprocal basis.</p> <p>The Malagasy side appreciated the support provided by the Government of India in education/capacity building of students, professionals and institutions which have been one of the strongest pillars of bilateral partnership between the two countries.</p>

		<p>to Tulear and Lycee Moderne Ampefiloha School, grant assistance for election related materials, computers, video projector, sound and office equipment to CENI</p> <p>d) President gave cheque for US\$ 2 million to BNGRC, the National Office for Management of Risk and Disaster Relief, as India's contribution for disaster relief</p> <p>e) Madagascar to continue support for the early adoption of Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism (CCIT) proposed by India</p> <p>f) Both countries to remain engaged on regional and international issues of mutual interest such as maritime security and safety, including the fight against piracy, illegal fishing and other illegal activities, cooperation between their coast guards and their naval forces as mentioned in the Memorandum of Understanding in the field of defence signed by India and Madagascar</p> <p>g) strengthening and diversifying cooperation especially in the area of the blue and related economy, including the promotion of sustainable fisheries, maritime connectivity, marine resource management, ecotourism promotion, pollution control and sea related studies</p> <p>h) Both the Presidents jointly inaugurated the Center on Geoinformatics Applications for Rural Development (CGARD), set up in Antananarivo with India's assistance. The Center's cutting-edge technologies related to remote sensing, geo-informatic information system (GIS) and GPS, can be applied in several sectors: fishing, agriculture, cartography, natural disaster management, scientific research, etc</p> <p>Agreements/MoU's signed</p> <p>a) Memorandum of Understanding on Defence Cooperation and the Amended Air Services Agreement between the two countries.</p>	<p>The Indian President noted with satisfaction that the Indian Diaspora in Madagascar, living for several generations throughout Madagascar, was well integrated into the Malagasy social and economic fabric and contributing for the development of the country.</p>
3	<p><u>March 28-30, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of External Affairs Minister to Japan</p>	<p>EAM participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> India-Japan Foreign Ministers' Strategic Dialogue. The two sides reviewed all aspects of bilateral relations and exchanged views on regional and international issues of common interest.</p> <p>Notes were exchanged between Government of India and Government of Japan for Japanese Overseas Development Assistance for five new developmental projects in Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Himachal Pradesh and the North-East region.</p>	<p>In India's transformational journey, India regards Japan as a natural partner. Japan's presence is visible in major infrastructural and capacity-building projects across India. Actions are being taken for Japanese partnership in our flagship initiatives such as Smart City, Digital India, Start Up India, etc. Areas in which steps are taken/being taken by the Government to boost the bilateral relations with Japan are: promoting investment from Japan into India; High Speed Railways; ICT; Innovation; Space Science; Healthcare; Food Processing; Capacity Building and Skill Development including</p>

			Technical Interns Training Program (TITP); promotion of Japanese language in India; and Track 1.5 Dialogue.
4	<u>April 04-06, 2018</u> Visit of External Affairs Minister to Azerbaijan	The main areas identified for cooperation with Azerbaijan are energy, tourism, pharma and health, agriculture, IT and connectivity. The following two Agreement/MoU were signed during the visit: (i) Agreement on Exemption from Visa Requirement for holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service Passports; (ii) MoU between the Foreign Service Institute, Ministry of External Affairs, Republic of India and ADA University, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Azerbaijan	All efforts are being made to boost bilateral relations through high level visits, bilateral joint mechanisms like IGC, FOC, parliamentary cooperation, bilateral agreements and cooperation in UN and other multilateral fora.
5	<u>April 07-12, 2018</u> Visit of President to Equatorial Guinea	Agreement/MoUs signed: i. MoU in the field of Medicinal plant ii. MoU in the field of Traditional Systems of Medicine iii. Action plan on cooperation in Information and Communication Technology (ICT).  Areas identified for cooperation and discussions held: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agreed to hold regular consultations on bilateral issues.</li> <li>Agreed to take strong measures against terrorism.</li> <li>Agreed to expand bilateral trade, emphasising on high Indian participation in Agriculture, Energy, Mining and ICT.</li> <li>Announcement made by President for setting up of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Entrepreneurship Development and Vocational Training Centre (VTC)</li> <li>b) English Language Training Laboratory in Equatorial Guinea as a strong</li> </ul> </li> <li>Announcement of opening resident Mission in Malabo.</li> </ul> <p>Hon'ble Rashtrapatiji was conferred the medal of the Gran Collar de la Independencia, the highest civilian honour of Equatorial Guinea, by the Hon'ble President of Equatorial Guinea.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Cabinet has approved opening of a resident Indian Mission in Equatorial Guinea.</li> <li>Proposed visit by Department of Telecommunications to Equatorial Guinea in July 2018 to explore possible investment opportunities in telecom sector.</li> <li>Visit of Mines delegation (GSI) to Equatorial Guinea in May 2018.</li> <li>Visit of HMT(I) to Equatorial Guinea to conduct initial field study for establishment of VTC is planned for July 2018.</li> <li>Agriculture delegation visited Equatorial Guinea to study &amp; evaluate potential areas of cooperation in April, 2018.</li> </ul>
6	<u>April 07-12, 2018</u> Visit of President to Swaziland	Areas/projects Identified for Cooperation: a) Indian assistance for construction of a new Parliament building in Swaziland (now renamed as Eswatini) b) Indian LOC of USD 10.4 million for construction of a disaster-recovery site for the National Data Centre of eSwatini. c) Indian assistance for construction of an agricultural 'Centre of Excellence' for transfer of technologies. d) Indian grant assistance of US\$ 400,000 for construction of irrigation infrastructure in Lubuyane district. e) Doubling of ITEC scholarships for Eswatini. f) Donation of USD 1 million in cash, and 1000 tons of foodgrains, for the Disaster Management Agency of eSwatini. g) Joint efforts to mobilise Indian investments for the export oriented	Good progress has been made for implementing the various projects/initiatives identified and announced during the visit. A technical team from Tata Consulting Engineers will shortly visit Eswatini for commencing the design of the new Parliament building. The Eswatini government is compiling some technical information for facilitating the implementation of the LOC project announced for the disaster-recovery site. Government of India has already transferred the cash-assistance of USD 1 million for the Eswatini Disaster Management Agency, and the foodgrain donation is also underway. Swazi Government officials have already started making use of the enhanced scholarship quota under ITEC. The quick implementation of most of the announcements made during the VVIP visit have given momentum to the bilateral relationship, and reiterated India as a



		<p>Special Economic Zone being set-up in eSwatini.</p> <p>h) Both countries agreed to open resident diplomatic Missions in each other's territory.</p> <p>Agreements/MOUs signed:</p> <p>a) MoU for Cooperation in Health Sector</p> <p>b) Agreement on exemption of visas for holders of diplomatic/service passports</p>	reliable development partner of Eswatini.
7	<p><u>April 07-12, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of President to Zambia</p>	<p>Both Leaders discussed the possibility of cooperation in areas of power generation. Hon'ble President offered assistance in the area of biomass gasifier source of energy. The two leaders also agreed to revive the meetings of the India-Zambia Joint Permanent Commission and Foreign Office Consultations to further strengthen bilateral cooperation for mutual benefit of the two countries.</p> <p>2. Following Memorandums of Understanding/Agreements were signed during the visit:</p> <p><b>(a)</b> Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with respect to Taxes on Income;</p> <p><b>(b)</b> Setting up of Entrepreneurship Cooperative Development Centre in Zambia;</p> <p><b>(c)</b> Exemption of visa requirement for holders of diplomatic passports; and</p> <p><b>(d)</b> Cooperation in the Judicial Sector.</p> <p>3. During the visit, Hon'ble President announced (i) construction of Mahatma Gandhi Convention Centre in Lusaka; (ii) support to health and education sectors of Zambia through the provision of medicines and medical equipment worth US\$ 3 million; and (iii) US\$ 100,000 to renovate the Mahatma Gandhi Primary School in Lusaka.</p> <p>4. Hon'ble President also extended invitation to Zambian President H.E. Mr. Edgar Chagwa Lungu and first Republican President Dr Kenneth Kaunda to visit India. The visits, when materialized, are expected to further deepen bilateral relations between the two countries.</p>	<p>Almost on all of the announcements/decisions taken during the visit of Hon'ble Rashtrapati Ji to Zambia, a good progress has been made. While a team of NBCC (India) Limited, designated Project Management Consultancy (PMC) has already visited Lusaka for feasibility studies for construction of Mahatma Gandhi Convention Centre, an amount of US\$ 100,000 has already been transferred for renovation of Mahatma Gandhi Primary School in Lusaka. For visits of Dr. first Republican President Dr Kenneth Kuanda and President Lungu, the process is underway to identify mutually agreed dates. For donating medicines and medical equipment, the process is underway. The process of effectuating signed Agreements/MoUs is also moving at fast pace. For MoU on Exemption of visa requirement for holders of diplomatic passports, Government of India has completed its process and requested to Zambian side to do it at the earliest. For setting up of Entrepreneurship Cooperative Development Centre, Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India, Ahmedabad, the implementing agency, has undertaken feasibility study tour and is in the process of formulating draft Agreement.</p> <p>2. Since 1970s, India has provided considerable economic assistance to Zambia. In recent past, India provided (i) LoC of US\$ 50 million (only US\$ 29m utilized) for 120MW Itezhi Tezhi Power project; (ii) LoC of US\$ 50mn (and additional US\$ 18mn) for 650 rural health posts (275 are operational); (iii) LoC of US\$ 40mn for agriculture mechanization is under process; and (iv) LoC of US\$ 180mn has been offered to Zambia for construction of three solar power plants.</p> <p>3. Zambia has also been a major beneficiary of training slots under the Indian Technical and Economic Cooperation programme, ICCR scholarships and young diplomats training at Foreign Service Institute of Ministry External Affairs.</p>
8	<u>April 16-21, 2018</u>	Prime Minister of India visited Sweden on 16-17 April 2018. This	Cooperate on maintaining people-to-people contact and high emphasis



	Visit of Prime Minister to Sweden	<p>was Prime Minister's first visit to Sweden as well as a visit to Sweden by Indian Prime Minister after three decades.</p> <p>On 17 April, Prime Minister had an audience with His Majesty King Carl XVI Gustaf and a meeting with PM Lofven. Additionally, Leader of Opposition in Swedish Parliament, Ulf Kristersson, called on Prime Minister.</p> <p>Prime Minister's discussions with PM Lofven focused on strengthening bilateral ties with special emphasis on building closer economic relations as well as important global and regional issues. Both Prime Ministers participated in a Round-table meeting with about 30 CEOs of leading Swedish enterprises and addressed the CEOs.</p> <p>India and Sweden signed a Joint Declaration on India-Sweden Innovation Partnership for a Sustainable Future and adopted a Joint Action Plan.</p>	<p>on cultural exchanges and tourism.</p> <p>Existing mechanisms for cooperation – Foreign Office Consultations, Joint Commission for Economic, Industrial and Scientific Cooperation, JWG on Defence, JWG on urban development and India-Sweden Business Leaders Round Table.</p>
9	<u>April 16-21, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to UK	<p>The following MOU have been signed during the visit.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joint Announcement by UK and India on Setting up of a Fast Track Mechanism for Indian companies in the UK</li> <li>2. MoU regarding Cooperation and Exchange of Information for combating international criminality and tackling serious organised crime</li> <li>3. MoU between National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) and Natural Environmental Research Council (NERC) on River Ganga Rejuvenation</li> <li>4. MoU between NMCG and Scottish Govt on River Ganga Rejuvenation</li> <li>5. Framework for UK-India Cyber Relationship</li> <li>6. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Skill Development, Vocational Education &amp; Training</li> <li>7. Arrangement between Office for Nuclear Regulation (ONR) and Atomic Energy Regulatory Board of India (AERB)</li> <li>8. MoU on Cooperation in the field of Sustainable Urban Development</li> <li>9. MoU for cooperation in the field of animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries sector</li> <li>10. Addendum to MoU for Newton Bhabha Programme</li> <li>11. Statement of Intent (SoI) for Mutual Understanding and Cooperation between NITI Ayog and Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS)</li> </ol>	<p>The UK and India have agreed to work closely together to address shared and global challenges.</p>

10	<u>April 16-21, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to Germany	Nil	<p>Prime Minister made a brief stopover in Berlin on 20 April after completing his visits to Sweden and the United Kingdom. During his visit, PM met Chancellor Merkel and the two leaders exchanged views on a number of bilateral, regional and global issues.</p> <p>This was the first meeting between the two leaders since Chancellor Merkel began her fourth term on 14 March 2018.</p> <p>The visit demonstrated the commitment by the two countries to maintain the momentum of high level exchanges.</p>
11	<u>April 21-24, 2018</u>  Visit of External Affairs Minister to China	<p>During her official visit to China from 21-24 April 2018, External Affairs Minister participated in the Meeting of the Council of Foreign Ministers of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on 24 April 2018 and held a bilateral meeting with Foreign Minister Wang Yi on 22 April 2018, in which they reviewed various aspects of bilateral relations and discussed regional and international issues of common interest.</p> <p>April 23-24, 2018 part of the China visit was for the SCO Foreign Ministers meeting. No agreements were signed. Discussions were mainly on preparations, topics for discussion and outcome documents for the SCO Council of Heads of State Summit held in Qingdao, China on 9-10 June, 2018</p>	<p>During the visit of President of the People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping to India in September 2014, the two sides forged a Closer Developmental Partnership, which was further consolidated during the visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to China in May 2015 and April 2018.</p> <p>In our multifaceted engagement with China, in areas where we have commonality of views, engagement has expanded and upgraded in recent years. Issues where there are differences are being handled through dialogue to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution based on mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations.</p> <p>Accordingly, both sides have been working towards utilizing their bilateral dialogue mechanisms to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in a wide range of areas. Both sides agree that progress in bilateral relations should be guided by the consensus reached between their leaders that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability and that the two countries must not allow their differences to become disputes.</p> <p>SCO Foreign Ministers Meeting on 23-24 April, 2018 was a multilateral meeting.</p>
12	<u>April 25-26, 2018</u>  Visit of External Affairs Minister to Mongolia	EAM co-chaired the 6 <sup>th</sup> India-Mongolia Joint Committee on Cooperation. During the IMJCC, EAM and the Mongolian Foreign Minister discussed issues related to political, strategic, trade & economic, cultural and educational cooperation.	India is continuing to work towards promoting bilateral ties within the framework of Strategic Partnership based on deep civilizational, historical, spiritual and cultural linkages between India and Mongolia. Efforts are being directed at enhancing cooperation in areas of energy, trade & economy, IT, healthcare, animal husbandry, capacity building, infrastructure development and other developmental sectors.
13	<u>April 26-28, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to	Prime Minister and President of People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping held their first informal Summit in Wuhan on 27-28 April 2018 to exchange views on overarching issues of bilateral and global importance and to elaborate their respective visions and priorities for	During the visit of President of the People's Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping to India in September 2014, the two sides forged a Closer Developmental Partnership, which was further consolidated during the visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to China in May 2015

	Wuhan, China	national development in the context of the current and future international situation. The two leaders decided to strengthen the Closer Development Partnership in a mutually beneficial and sustainable manner by strengthening strategic communication and cooperating in a wide range of areas, including bilateral trade and investment, cultural and people-to-people exchanges, and facilitating sustainable solutions for global challenges.	and April 2018.  In our multifaceted engagement with China, in areas where we have commonality of views, engagement has expanded and upgraded in recent years. Issues where there are differences are being handled through dialogue to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution based on mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations.  Accordingly, both sides have been working towards utilizing their bilateral dialogue mechanisms to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in a wide range of areas. Both sides agree that progress in bilateral relations should be guided by the consensus reached between their leaders that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability and that the two countries must not allow their differences to become disputes.
14	<u>May 06-08, 2018</u>  Visit of Vice President to Guatemala	Both sides reviewed the main issues of the bilateral relations and agreed to explore and strengthen their cooperation linkages in different areas such as agriculture, culture, education, renewable energy, environment conservation, trade & investment etc. The two countries also exchanged views on regional and multilateral issues. India reiterated its invitation for Guatemala to join the International Solar Alliance.  The two sides also agreed to promote trade and economic relations and called upon the private sectors to explore and take advantage of the pro-business climate existing in both countries. A Memorandum of Understanding for Cooperation between the FSI of India and diplomatic academy of Guatemala was signed.	In order to boost relations with Guatemala, India and Guatemala has an agreement on holding Foreign Office Consultation, a mechanism under which regular consultation meetings are held at Secretary level to further strengthening our bilateral relations with Guatemala. India has been extending cooperation with Guatemala through its ITEC programme under which Guatemalans are provided training every year in Indian institutions in various fields. Proposals are under consideration for furthering cooperation in the fields of agriculture, culture and trade.
15	<u>May 08 - 09, 2018</u>  Visit of Vice President to Panama	The areas of cooperation discussed during the visit included trade and investment, pharmaceuticals, IT, space, Science and Technology, culture, Defence, Consular, Agriculture, energy, and other multilateral and regional issues. An MoU for exemption of Visa for Diplomatic, Official and Consular Passport Holders was signed.	Exchange of Ministerial visits, meetings of Institutional mechanism, namely, Foreign Office Consultations, visit of business delegations in various sectors including pharmaceuticals, minerals, chemicals, textiles, agriculture etc and B-2-B meetings helped in boosting bilateral relations and promoting trade and investment. Make in India and other promotional events are conducted by the Embassy to bring awareness to the Panamanian businessmen and industrialists. International Day of Yoga celebrations for the fourth consequent year have been held to promote yoga. Cultural troupes from India have visited to showcase Indian culture. Panama has been participating under various training courses offered by ITEC.
16	<u>May 10-12, 2018</u>	Areas for Cooperation:	There is a strong convergence of views on starting text based

	Visit of Vice President to Peru	Both sides reviewed the entire spectrum of bilateral relations including Trade and Commerce, Investments, Information Technology, Capacity Building, Traditional Medicines, Space, Defence, Culture and others areas. MoU signed during the visit of May, 2018 MoU on New & Renewable Energy	negotiations for UNSC reforms. As the current member of UNSC, Peru offered its full support for our position on UNSC reforms and in countering terrorism. India sought support of Peru for India's candidature to Human Rights Council (HRC) for the term 2019-2021 and the Council of International Telecommunication Union (ITU) for the term 2018-2022. The Peruvian side agreed to preferably access to our request and sought India's support for their candidature to Drug Commission for the period 2020-2023 and Membership of ECOSOC for 2020-2024. The Peruvian proposed to enter into reciprocal arrangements. India asked Peru to send a delegation for discussing the details of Cooperation in areas like energy, pharmaceuticals and related areas.
17	<u>May 10-11, 2018</u>  Visit of External Affairs Minister to Myanmar	During the visit, boundary and border related issues, peace & security matters, developments in the Rakhine State, including return of displaced persons, India's development assistance to Myanmar, ongoing projects, and other issues of mutual interest were discussed. Seven key documents, including the landmark Agreement on Land Border Crossing, establishment of Industrial Training Centres and conservation of Earthquake Damaged Pagodas in Bagan were signed.	Our relations with Myanmar have been strengthened over the few years, including through regular exchange of high level visits. Prime Minister paid a State Visit to Myanmar in September 2017, while Myanmar President and State Counsellor visited India in 2016. During these visits, several areas of cooperation in health, culture, capacity building, maritime security renewable energy, power, traditional medicines and banking sector were identified.
18	<u>May 11-12, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to Kathmandu	The visit of Prime Minister of India to Nepal in May 2018, at the invitation of Prime Minister of Nepal, was in keeping with the tradition of regular political exchanges between India and Nepal at the highest levels. The visit provided an opportunity to review the close and multifaceted relations between the two countries to further advance ongoing cooperation in sectors such as agriculture, railway linkages, inland waterways development, economic and development cooperation, trade, economic, civil aviation, water resources, power, culture, and people-to-people ties. No inter-governmental agreements were signed during the visit. The two Prime Ministers laid the foundation stone of 900 MW Arun-III hydro-power project in Nepal.	India and Nepal share a strong multi-faceted relationship encompassing political, trade and economic, cultural, development cooperation and strong people to people linkages. The Government of India is committed to further strengthening these linkages, including through exchange of high-level visits, regular meetings of official mechanisms, visits at officials/ technical levels. Apart from working closely with Government of Nepal, engagement and contacts at the business community and people's level have also been continuously encouraged to boost the bilateral ties.
19	<u>May 20-21, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to Russia (Sochi)	Informal visit. No documents signed. Press Release issued.	Regular high level contacts and implementation of agreed decisions.
20	<u>May 29 – June 02, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to Indonesia	Defence, Security, Economy, Culture, people-to-people links were identified for cooperation  PM's meeting with President Joko Widodo commenced with a tête-à-tête between the Leaders, followed by a delegation meeting. Leaders also interacted with members of the Indonesia -India CEO forum.	During PM's visit, our bilateral relations were elevated to the level of comprehensive strategic partnership. To enhance our bilateral relationship, it has been decided to hold annual summit meetings and regular bilateral consultations through ministerial and working group mechanisms.

		Nine G2G MoUs on cooperation in the fields of defence, space, science & technology, railways, health, pharmaceuticals, policy dialogue, etc. were signed during the visit.	
21	<u>May 29 – June 02, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to Malaysia	Prime Minister visited Malaysia on 31 May 2018 and felicitated Dr. Mahathir Mohamad on his victory in the recent general elections and appointment as Malaysian Prime Minister. The discussions during the meeting between the two leaders focused on promotion of closer bilateral relations in the areas of Defence, Counter-Terrorism and Trade & Commerce.	Steps have been taken to hold regular Defence Staff Talks between the two countries; Proposal to hold Malaysia-India Defence Committee Meeting (MIDCOM) at the Secretary General level during 2018.  Joint Working Group Meetings on Counter-Terrorism are held biennially. Joint Commission Meeting at Ministerial level proposed to be held between India and Malaysia during 2018.
22	<u>May 29 – June 02, 2018</u>  Visit of Prime Minister to Singapore	<p>Security and strategic cooperation, economic cooperation, technology and innovation partnership, civilizational and cultural links have been identified in the areas of cooperation. Also five areas of cooperation to enhance bilateral relations – referred to as 5-S Plank- were agreed in August 2014. These are– (i) Scale up Trade &amp; Investment; (ii) Speed up Connectivity; (iii) Smart Cities and Urban Rejuvenation; (iv) Skill development; and (v) State focus.</p> <p>Prime Minister delivered the keynote address at Shangri La Dialogue on 1st June 2018. This is the first time an Indian Prime Minister has delivered the Keynote address at Shangri La Dialogue. PM spoke about India-ASEAN relations, India's Indo-Pacific Policy and importance of centrality of ASEAN in the Indo-Pacific region.</p> <p>The following MoUs were signed:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint Statement on conclusion of second review of CECA.</li> <li>• Mutual Recognition Agreement on Nursing.</li> <li>• Implementation agreement between Indian Navy and Republic of Singapore Navy concerning Mutual Coordination, Logistics and Services Support for Naval Ships', Submarines and Naval Aircraft (including Ship borne Aviation Assets) visits</li> <li>• Extension of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-IN) Ministry of Electronics &amp; Information Technology, Government of India and the Singapore Computer Emergency Response Team (SINGCERT), cyber security agency of the Republic of Singapore on cooperation in the area of cyber security.</li> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between the Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) of the Republic of India and the</li> </ul>	India and Singapore have taken several steps to boost bilateral relations and these include: regular high level visits and consultations between India and Singapore, institutional arrangements to engage between various Ministries and institutions, encouraging people to people contacts, promoting trade and investment, promoting defence and strategic cooperation, cooperation in the field of skill development, urban planning smart cities development.

		<p>Central Narcotics Bureau (CNB) of the Republic of Singapore on Cooperation to Combat Illicit Trafficking in Narcotic Drugs, Psychotropic Substances and their Precursors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between The Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Republic of India and the Public Service Division of the Republic of Singapore on Cooperation in the field of Personnel Management and Public Administration</li> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between the Department of Economic Affairs, ministry of Finance, Government of India and the Monetary Authority of Singapore on the constitution of a Joint Working Group (JWG) on Fintech between Indian and Singapore.</li> <li>• Memorandum of Understanding between the NITI Aayog and Singapore Cooperation Enterprise (SCE) on Cooperation in the Field of Planning</li> </ul>	
23	<p><u>June 02-03, 2018 &amp; June 07-08, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of External Affairs Minister to Mauritius</p>	<p>Smt. Sushma Swaraj, External Affairs Minister of India visited Mauritius on 2-3 June 2018 and then on June 07-08, 2018, en route to the meeting of BRICS Foreign Ministers in South Africa, to oversee the preparations of the next, 11th World Hindi Conference, organized jointly by Government of India and the Government of Mauritius, and to be held in Mauritius from 18-20 August 2018. During the visit, External Affairs Minister had a dinner meeting with Hon. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth, Prime Minister of the Republic of Mauritius on 2 June 2018, at which both sides reviewed preparations of and participation in the World Hindi Conference 2018.</p> <p>Accompanied by Hon. Leela Devi Dookun-Luchoomun, Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research, Government of Mauritius, External Affairs Minister paid a site visit to the Swami Vivekananda International Convention Centre (SVICC), the main venue of the World Hindi Conference, on 3 June 2018. External Affairs Minister also visited the newly inaugurated building of the World Hindi Secretariat, Phoenix, where she was welcomed by a wide range of Mauritian Socio-cultural organizations and Hindi enthusiasts.</p> <p>EAM also had a meeting with Sir Anerood Jugnauth, Minister of Defence &amp; Minister Mentor of Mauritius on 8 June 2018.</p>	<p>India-Mauritius relations are based on age-old ties of kinship and culture. World Hindi Conference will help further strengthen the bonds between the two countries. Prime Minister of Mauritius has been invited as Chief Guest at the next Pravasi Bharatiya Divas in January 2019 in Varanasi.</p>
24	<u>June 03-07, 2018</u>	<p><b>EAM participated in the BRICS Foreign Ministers' meeting in Pretoria on 4 June, 2018. EAM also participated in the IBSA</b></p>	<p><i>EAM visited Durban and Pietermaritzburg on 5-7 June, 2018. EAM interacted with members of the diaspora; On 6 June 2018 EAM visited</i></p>

	Visit of External Affairs Minister to South Africa	<p><b>Foreign Ministers’ meeting in Pretoria on 4 June, 2018.</b></p> <p><b>EAM called-on President Cyril Ramaphosa, and had bilateral meetings with the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation Ms Lindiwe Sisulu and the Minister of Rural Development and Land Reform Ms Maite Nkoana-Mashabane.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) <i>To strengthen and deepen our special relationship with South Africa</i></li> <li>(ii) <i>Cooperation in the areas of: Political Relations, Cooperation in Agriculture, Renewable Energy, Outer Space, Tourism and Trade&amp; Investment.</i></li> <li>(iii) <i>BRICS Cooperation</i></li> </ul>	<p><i>the Phoenix settlement that was established by Mahatma Gandhi in 1904; EAM was the Chief Guest at a Community event organized at the Pietermaritzburg City Hall where she interacted with members of the diaspora. Also present were the Mayor of Pietermaritzburg and senior government officials.</i></p> <p><i>On 7 June 2018, to commemorate the 125<sup>th</sup> year of the “incident” involving Mahatma Gandhi at Pietermaritzburg railway station, EAM accompanied by the South African Deputy Minister of International Relations and Cooperation, Mr Luwellyn Landers. the High Commissioner, Ms Ruchira Kamboj and, the Mayor of Pietermaritzburg and more than 300 guests boarded a train at Pentrich railway station for a symbolic 10-15 minute train ride to Pietermaritzburg railway station.</i></p> <p><i>EAM unveiled a first-of-its-kind two sided bust of Mahatma Gandhi with one side of the bust having the face of the young Mohandas Gandhi facing the railway platform and on the opposite side the face of the Mahatma facing away from the station platform.</i></p> <p><i>EAM and the Deputy Minister, Landers inaugurated a digital museum at the station.</i></p> <p><i>After listening to a message by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, EAM and the Dy. Minister Landers addressed the gathering of diaspora members and South Africans.</i></p> <p><i>A coffee-table book on the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Satyagrah, commemorative coins and commemorative postage stamps on ANC stalwart Oliver Reginald Tambo and Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay were released on the occasion.</i></p> <p><i>EAM and Dy Minister Landers also gave away the awards to the winner and first and second runners-up of the Essay competition on “What was the Turning Point in Your Life” held on the occasion of the 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Satyagrah</i></p> <p><i>The Programme on 7<sup>th</sup> June 2018 was telecast live across South Africa and India.</i></p>
25	<p><u>June 09-10, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of PM to Qingdao, China</p>	<p>During their bilateral meeting 9 June 2018 on the sidelines of the SCO Summit in Qingdao (China), Prime Minister and President of the People’s Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping, reviewed the progress in bilateral relations since the Wuhan Informal Summit of April 2018. The Chinese side also conveyed acceptance of Prime Minister’s invitation to President Xi Jinping to have the next</p>	<p>During the visit of President of the People’s Republic of China Mr. Xi Jinping to India in September 2014, the two sides forged a Closer Developmental Partnership, which was further consolidated during the visits of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to China in May 2015 and April 2018.</p>



		<p>Informal Summit in India in 2019.</p> <p>The following two bilateral agreements were signed during the visit: (i) MoU between Ministry of Water Resources, The People's Republic of China and Ministry of Water Resources, River Development and Ganga Rejuvenation, Republic of India upon Provision of Hydrological Information of the Brahmaputra River in Flood Season by China to India; and (ii) The Protocol between General Administration of Customs of the People's Republic of China and the Department of Agriculture, Cooperation and Farmers Welfare of the Republic of India on Phytosanitary Requirements for Exporting Rice from India to China.</p> <p>PM attended the SCO Heads of State meeting in Qingdao, China on 9-10 June, 2018. Outcome documents in the fields of Plan of Action for SCO Treaty on Long term good neighbourliness, friendship and Cooperation for 2018-2022, Prevention of Narcotics Abuse, Environmental Protection, Appeal to Youth, Epidemics, Trade Facilitation, MSMEs, Customs and Tourism were signed.</p>	<p>In our multifaceted engagement with China, in areas where we have commonality of views, engagement has expanded and upgraded in recent years. Issues where there are differences are being handled through dialogue to seek a fair, reasonable and mutually acceptable solution based on mutual respect and sensitivity to each other's interests, concerns and aspirations.</p> <p>Accordingly, both sides have been working towards utilizing their bilateral dialogue mechanisms to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in a wide range of areas. Both sides agree that progress in bilateral relations should be guided by the consensus reached between their leaders that at a time of global uncertainty, India-China relations are a factor of stability and that the two countries must not allow their differences to become disputes.</p> <p>SCO Heads of State Summit was a multilateral meeting.</p>
26	<p><u>June 16-18, 2018</u></p> <p>Visit of the President to Greece</p>	<p>Rashtrapatiji, Shri Ram Nath Kovind was on a State Visit to the Hellenic Republic from 16-19 June, 2018. President Kovind was accompanied by Shri Vishnu Deo Sai, Minister of State for Steel, Members of Parliament and senior officials of Government of India.</p> <p>President Pavlopoulos held a meeting with President Kovind. The Prime Minister of the Hellenic Republic, His Excellency Mr. Alexis Tsipras paid a courtesy call on President Kovind. The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Kyriakos Mitsotakis separately called on President Kovind.</p> <p>President Kovind addressed the India-Greece CEO's meeting and the Hellenic Foundation for Europe and Foreign Policy (ELIAMEP) 19 June 2018.</p> <p>The constructive cooperation between the two nations on international and bilateral issues was highlighted. The presence of Indian companies in infrastructure, pharmaceuticals and steel sectors in Greece and of Greek companies in the fields of IT and construction in India was noted. The sectors such as agriculture, shipping and tourism were identified as areas for further cooperation.</p> <p>India confirmed its participation as "Honored Country" in the Thessaloniki International Fair 2019.</p>	<p>Cooperate on maintaining people-to-people contact and high emphasis on cultural exchanges and tourism.</p> <p>Existing mechanisms for cooperation – Foreign Office Consultations, Joint Economic Committee meetings, work plan on Agriculture, and Joint Committee on S&amp;T.</p>



		Three Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) namely; (i) the MoU between Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS) and National Quality Infrastructure System/Hellenic Organization for Standardization on Cooperation in the Fields of Standardization; (ii) MoU between Foreign Service Institute (FSI), India and Diplomatic Academy, Greece on Cooperation in Diplomatic Training and (iii) the Programme of Cultural Cooperation for the year 2018-2020 between India and Greece, were signed during the visit.	
27	<u>June 19-21, 2018</u>  Visit of the President to Suriname	<p>Areas identified for cooperation: Education, agriculture, renewable energy, small scale industries, IT and agriculture sector.</p> <p>Agreement / MoUs signed during the said visits:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MoUs on Cooperation in the Field of Elections between India and Suriname;</li> <li>• Setting up of a Centre of Excellence in Information Technology in Suriname;</li> <li>• Cooperation between National Archives of India and the National Archives of Suriname;</li> <li>• Gainful employment for the wards/spouses of diplomats posted in India and Suriname,</li> <li>• Cooperation between the Foreign Service Institute of India and Diplomatic Institute of Suriname were signed</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Government of Suriname requested to explore the trade potential with India in diverse sectors including the import of generic medicines and other medical products from India.</li> <li>• India offered assistance to Suriname in setting-up Solar Power projects, mining, oil exploration, and agro-based industries</li> <li>• An agreement between Export-Import Bank of India and the Government of Suriname for a line of credit for improvement of infrastructure.</li> </ul> <p>President of Suriname handed over the Instrument of Ratification of the International Solar Alliance to the President of India and expressed happiness over India's support of an additional Line of Credit of under the International Solar Alliance programme as soft loan to fulfil solar power needs</p>
28	<u>June 21-22, 2018</u>  Visit of the President to Cuba	<p>During the visit to Havana, Cuba two MoUs were signed, for cooperation in the fields of:</p> <p>(i) Bio-technological sphere, and Traditional system of medicine and homeopathy.</p>	<p>The visit, while serving to connect with the new leadership of Cuba under the guidance of Miguel Diaz-Canel, emphasized the continuity of bilateral and multilateral cooperation. Cuba reiterated her support for an expanded UNSC while joining with India's demand for a text based discussion towards reform of UNSC. They also expressed their support for veto power for new members and to safeguard the domain of UNGA from the interference of UNSC. Development cooperation was reinforced on issues ranging from Science and Technology to enhanced trade and commerce and training and capacity building through ITEC. Cooperation in biotechnology emerged as a key area of growth. Sharing of vaccines, cancer treatment, diabetes treatment and other cutting edge technologies were identified as the prospective areas future cooperation.</p>
29	<u>June 17-23, 2018</u>  Visit of External Affairs Minister to Italy, France,	<p>Countries visited: Italy (18 June), France (18-19 June), Luxembourg (20 June) &amp; Belgium (20-22 June)</p> <p>•Level of Meetings: –Head of State / Head of Govt. level: 5</p>	<p>Italy: Both sides agreed to mutually identify new areas of cooperation to boost trade and investment linkages. Both leaders agreed to work together to build a robust and wide-ranging partnership covering political consultations, trade and commerce, science &amp; technology, culture and people to people ties.</p>

	Luxembourg, and Belgium	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Italy: Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Giuseppe Conte</li> <li>•France: President H.E. Mr. Emmanuel Macron</li> <li>•Luxembourg: Grand Duke of Luxembourg HRH Henri Albert Gabriel Felix Marie Guillaume &amp; Prime Minister H.E. Xavier Bettel</li> <li>•Belgium: President of the European Commission, Mr. Jean-Claude Juncker</li> </ul> <p>–Minister / Speaker level: 6</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>•Italy: Foreign Minister H. E. Mr. Enzo Moavero Milanesi</li> <li>•France: Foreign &amp; Trade Minister H.E. Mr. Jean-Yves Le Drian</li> <li>•Luxembourg: Foreign Minister H. E. Mr. Jean Asselborn</li> <li>•Belgium: Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs H.E. Mr. Didier Reynders and H.E. Mr. Antonio Tajani, President of the EU Parliament.</li> </ul> <p>France: EAM held discussions with the French President, the French Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the Diplomatic Adviser to the French President. Discussions covered a wide range of topics including Trade &amp; Economy, Smart Cities, Transport, People to People relations – mobility and cultural cooperation, Space, Civil nuclear, Defence, Counter terrorism and Strategic Cooperation and International issues of importance.</p> <p>An LoI was signed on Cooperation in the field of prehistoric caves Bhimbetka in India and Lascaux and Chauvet in France.</p>	<p>It was agreed to hold the next meeting of the Joint Commission for Economic Cooperation (JCEC) in India later this year.</p> <p>France: India and France have a 20 year old Strategic Partnership. This is the oldest partnership of India in Europe, with continued and increased collaboration in a wide range of fields. Our traditional cooperation in the areas of maritime security, defence, counter-terrorism, space and nuclear cooperation have been expanded over the years to include new areas of engagement such as climate change, S&amp;T, railways, smart cities and education.</p> <p>Aside from high level visits between the countries in 2015, 2016, 2017 and 2018, the leaders of the two countries have met and discussed topics of national and international importance on the side-lines of several events.</p> <p>Luxembourg: This was first-ever visit by an External Affairs Minister of India to Luxembourg.</p> <p>EAM called on the Hon'ble Grand Duke of Luxembourg and Prime Minister of Luxembourg and had a meeting with her counterpart, Mr Jean Asselborn, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs. The leaders discussed a wide range of issues including enhancing bilateral and India-EU trade and investment ties, digital and space cooperation, fintech and diaspora contribution.</p> <p>Belgium:</p> <p>India and Belgium are celebrating the completion of 70 years since the establishment of their diplomatic relations.</p> <p>EAM called on H. E. Mr. Jean Claude Juncker, President of the European Commission, President of the EU Parliament.</p> <p>Vice President of the European Union Parliament hosted an interaction with select Members of the European Parliament, during which EAM called for greater Parliamentary exchanges.</p> <p>EAM delivered the introductory speech at the high-level event 'Climate, Peace and Security: Time for Action' organised by the European External Action Service (EEAS).</p> <p>EAM had a bilateral meeting with H. E. Ms. Federica Mogherini, the High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy / Vice President of the European Commission to review the entire gamut of India-EU relations. EAM had a bilateral meeting with H.E. Mr. Didier Reynders, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium</p>
30	<u>July 14-15, 2018</u>  Visit of External Affairs Minister to	EAM Smt. Sushma Swaraj paid an official visit to the Kingdom of Bahrain on 14-15 July 2018 to Co-Chair the 2nd High Joint Commission (HJC) Meeting with Bahraini Foreign Minister H.E.	Government of India has taken various steps to boost the bilateral relations with the Kingdom of Bahrain. Exchange of high level bilateral visits have further strengthened our deep rooted historic

	Bahrain	<p>Shaikh Khalid Bin Ahmed Bin Mohamed Al Khalifa. The following Agreements/MOUs were signed during the visit:</p> <p>i) Agreement on Exemption from Short Stay Visa for Holders of Diplomatic and Official/Special Passports.</p> <p>ii) MoU on Renewable Energy.</p> <p>iii) MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Healthcare.</p> <p>During the visit, both sides agreed to expand cooperation in the fields of education, health, housing, renewable energy, space cooperation, tourism, civil aviation, culture, youth and sports, women empowerment, customs, oil and gas and petrochemicals, security, defence and intelligence training and exchange of expertise, consular issues, exchange of researchers and faculty members in the fields of food security, cyber space and energy. Both sides also agreed to cooperate for early adoption of India's proposed Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism at the UN.</p>	<p>linkages, trade and economic relations, close people-to-people contacts with the Kingdom of Bahrain. Regular meetings of well-established bilateral mechanisms including Foreign Office Consultations and High Joint Commission provide opportunity to hold wide-ranging discussions and exchange views on bilateral, regional and multilateral issues of mutual interest.</p>
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