Prime Minister of Bangladesh Visits India

Prime Minister of the People’s Republic of Bangladesh H.E Sheikh Hasina paid a State Visit to India from April 7-10, 2017.

The two Prime Ministers presided over a ceremony at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi in honour of the Indian martyrs who fought alongside the Bangladeshi Muktijoddha in the Great Liberation War of Bangladesh in 1971. Both Prime Ministers jointly released the Hindi translation of the book “Unfinished Memoirs” by Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. Prime Minister Hasina thanked the Indian government for renaming a road in New Delhi in memory of her father Bangabandhu Sheikh Mujib. Prime Minister Hasina addressed a business event held in New Delhi on April 10 jointly organized by the leading Indian and Bangladesh business community.

During the talks, the two Prime Ministers affirmed that the relationship between India and Bangladesh was anchored in history, culture, language and shared values of secularism, democracy, and countless other commonalities between the two countries.

Prime Minister Modi also commended Prime Minister Hasina for her consistent efforts to combat terrorism and violent extremism in Bangladesh. The two Prime Ministers condemned the genocide that occurred in Bangladesh in 1971. They solemnly acknowledged the atrocities and called upon the international community to recognize and preserve the memory of those who lost their lives and those who suffered during the genocide.

The two Prime Ministers noted with satisfaction the excellent progress made in the utilization of the first line of credit of US$ 862 million, as well as identification of specific projects for the second LOC of US$ 2 billion extended by India to Bangladesh.

The two Prime Ministers welcomed the identification of a number of projects in the areas of port construction, railways, roads, airports, power & energy, telecommunications, shipping etc in Bangladesh to be implemented under the 3rd Line of Credit of US$ 4.5 billion being given by Government of India. 34 bilateral documents, including business documents, were signed, exchanged, adopted and handed over during the visit. The two Prime Ministers expressed firm commitment to set an example of good neighbourliness in the region.
Pr of Nepal Visits India

Rt. Hon’ble Bidya Devi Bhandari, President of Nepal paid a State Visit to India from April 17-21, 2017, at the invitation of President of India Pranab Mukherjee. This was the first State visit of the President of Nepal after assuming office of the President in October 2015. The visit reflected the priority that both India & Nepal attach to further strengthening of their age-old, unique, wide-ranging partnership, underpinned by shared historical and cultural linkages and strong people-to-people connections.

During the visit, President of Nepal met with the President of India, Vice President and the Prime Minister. The External Affairs Minister and other Ministers called on the President of Nepal. Apart from official engagements in New Delhi, the President of Nepal also visited the states of Gujarat and Odisha. The visit was in keeping with the tradition of regular high-level exchanges between the two countries, and further deepened the cordial and cooperative ties that exist between India and Nepal.

President of Turkey Visits India

President of the Republic of Turkey, H.E. Mr. Recep Tayyip Erdogan, paid a State Visit to India from 30 April-01 May 2017. President Erdogan had earlier visited India in 2008 as the Prime Minister of Turkey.

An India-Turkey Business Forum meeting for the visiting Turkish businessmen and their Indian business counterparts was organized during the visit. President Erdoğan was conferred an honorary degree (Honoris Causa) by Jamia Millia Islamia University. Both Prime Minister Modi and President Erdogan, during the discussions, affirmed that the richly diverse and secular democracies of both nations provide a valuable base to further cement the ties between the two nations.

Both Leaders agreed that India and Turkey, being among the top 20 economies in the world with sound economic fundamentals and increasing convergence of positions, could contribute to addressing international issues of mutual interest such as new economic order, stability and security of the respective regions.

Both Leaders agreed to encourage business efforts to achieve a level of at least USD 10 billion by 2020 in bilateral trade. Both Leaders expressed their willingness for holding of the Turkey-India Joint Economic Committee Meetings regularly. Both Leaders agreed that mutual cooperation in the field of IT, pharmaceuticals, health and tourism is beneficial to growth of bilateral trade between the two nations. Pointing to the importance of energy in bilateral relations, both Leaders expressed their willingness to improve cooperation in the fields of hydrocarbons, renewable energy (solar and wind) and energy efficiency.

Prime Minister of Australia Visits India

The Prime Minister of Australia, Hon Malcolm Turnbull MP, paid a state visit to India from 9 to 12 April 2017 Prime Minister Turnbull also travelled to Mumbai for engagements with Indian business leaders and a meeting with the Governor of Maharashtra.
The two Prime Ministers reaffirmed their commitment to a peaceful and prosperous Indo-Pacific, based on mutual respect and cooperation. Recognising that an economically prosperous Indo-Pacific region is underpinned by stability and security, the two leaders underscored the importance of respecting the maritime legal order based on the 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Both leaders recognised that India and Australia share common interests in ensuring maritime security and the safety of sea lines of communication. Both leaders recognised the importance of freedom of navigation and overflight, unimpeded lawful commerce, as well as resolving maritime disputes by peaceful means, in accordance with international law, including UNCLOS.

The two Prime Ministers recalled the Special Forces Bilateral Exercise conducted in October 2016 and looked forward to the next iteration of the Exercise later this year. They also welcomed a decision for the first bilateral Army-to-Army exercise to take place in 2018. As the Defence relations expand, enhanced defence representation is envisaged on both sides over the coming years.

Recognizing that terrorism constitutes one of the most serious threats to peace and stability, the two Prime Ministers reiterated their strong commitment to combat terrorism in all its forms and manifestations, and stressed that there can be no justification for acts of terror on any grounds whatsoever.


Prime Minister’s Video Conference with South Asian Leaders Following the Successful Launch of South Asia Satellite

The South Asia Satellite, a unique example of South Asian regional cooperation in space sector, was successfully launched by Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) from Sriharikota on 5 May 2017.

Following the launch, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi was joined by leaders from South Asian countries participating in the project - H.E. Ashraf Ghani, President of Afghanistan; H.E. Sheikh Hasina, Prime Minister of Bangladesh; H.E. Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of Bhutan; H.E. Abdulla Yameen, President of Maldives; H.E. Pushpa Kamal Dahal "Prachanda”, Prime Minister of Nepal; and H.E. Maithripala Sirisena, President of Sri Lanka, in an unprecedented video-conference held to mark the launch.

The satellite, India’s gift to its neighbours, will connect it with six other countries of South Asia. It reflects Prime Minister Modi’s neighbourhood first policy. ISRO built the 2,230-kg satellite, which uses a new propulsion system, over three years at a cost of Rs 235 crore. Its mission life is 12 years and the project costs over Rs 450 crore. The satellite will provide telecommunication links among India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, Maldives, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan.
India Trains Third Set Of Female Peacekeepers at CUNPK, Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi

The Centre for United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) in India, in partnership with UN Women organised two week training at Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi from 03 April to 14 April 2017. A total of 41 participants from 27 different countries attended the course to derive benefit from it and to be available to the United Nations for deployment in field areas.

CUNPK is the pioneer institute to conduct this training and has continued training such officers ever since 2015. This premier UN peacekeeping training institute trained the female peacekeepers for a record third time. The training team consisted of some of the most experienced and seasoned speakers from across the globe. Participation from all the continents including instructors, facilitators and evaluators ensured balanced regional representation.

India has also taken a lead in hosting specialized UN peacekeeping courses on Conflict related Sexual Violence (CRSV) at CUNPK in the past. Interestingly, India is one of the very few countries which even fielded a complete Women Police battalion in a UN mission in Liberia, from 2007 to 2015.

UPCOMING BUSINESS EVENTS IN INDIA

Gartex 2017

After the triumphant launch of its inaugural edition in 2016, the stage is all set at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi from July 29-31, 2017 for Gartex 2017, which is expected to welcome more than 150 national and international exhibitors with their latest products & technology for over 15,000 trade visitors. Gartex is dedicated to the entire value chain of garment & textile manufacturing solutions and technologies, demonstrating all round advancements in the Indian textile & garment manufacturing industry. To register, please logon to https://10times.com/complete-garment-manufacturing-solutions-show

India Machine Tools Show 2017

The 7th IMTOS-India Machine Tools Show 2017 will be held from July 28th to 31st, 2017 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi, India. Organized by K and D Communication Ltd., India Machine Tools Show, Delhi, India is a leading platform where the best of the bests from India & leading international companies make strong business connection for growth. The fair is already making news through electronic media. To register, please log on to http://tradeshows.tradeindia.com/imtos/