



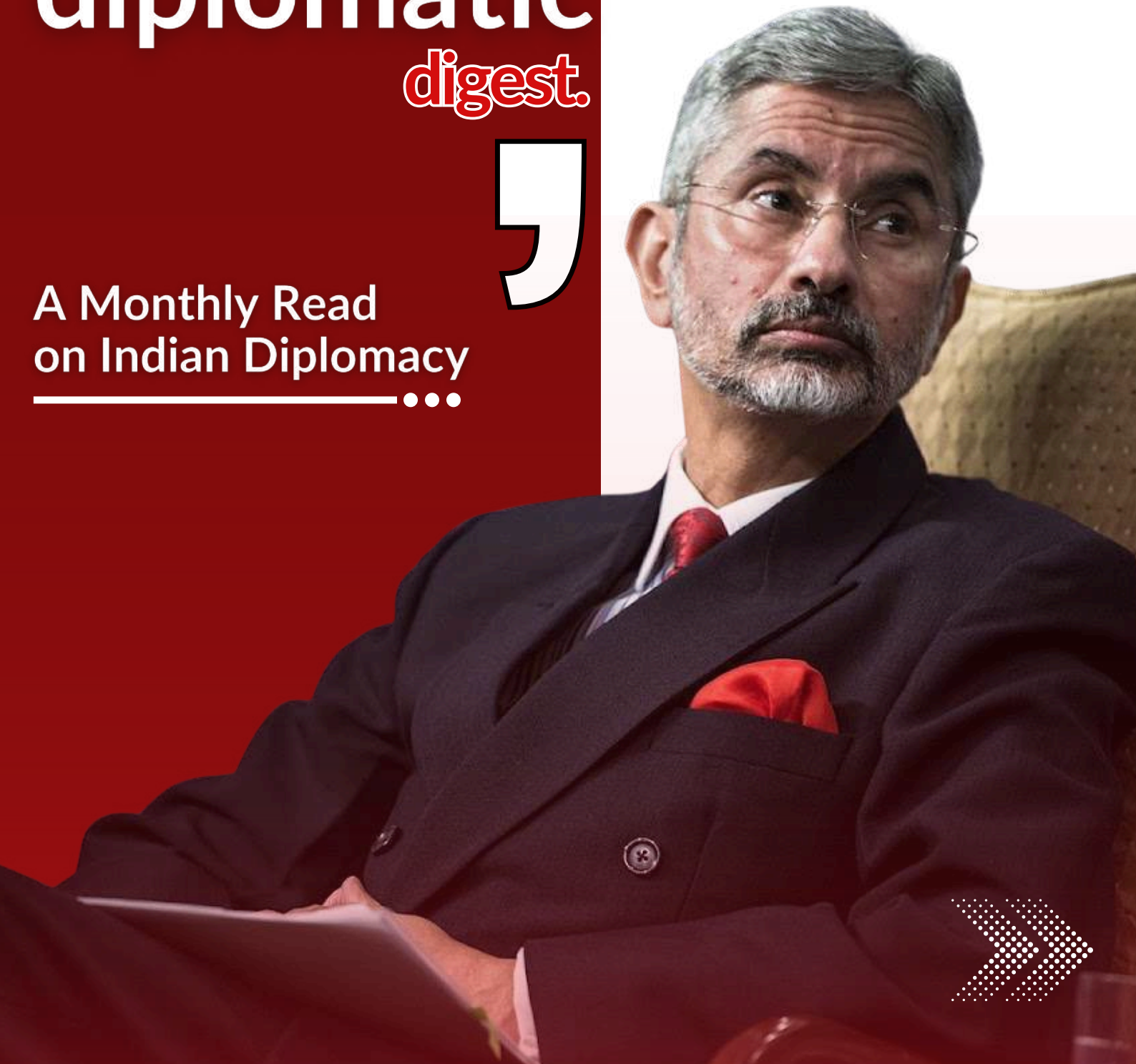
Red Lantern
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the
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digest.

**A Monthly Read
on Indian Diplomacy**



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Foreign Secretary's Visit to Mauritius

1st July 2025

Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri visited Mauritius, marking his second official visit to the island nation. The visit followed recent high-level exchanges, including a phone conversation between PM Modi and PM Navinchandra Ramgoolam, reaffirming their commitment to the Enhanced Strategic Partnership. During meetings with the President, Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, and Foreign Minister, discussions focused on strengthening bilateral cooperation across development, security, and social sectors. Misri emphasized India's commitment to Mauritius' prosperity and handed over anti-drug equipment to support the country's efforts against rising drug addiction. The visit aligns with India's Neighbourhood First, Vision MAHASAGAR, and Global South strategies, reinforcing shared development goals and maritime cooperation in the Indian Ocean region.



PM Modi Addresses Ghanaian Parliament, Strengthens India-Ghana Ties

3rd July 2025

PM Modi made history by addressing a special session of Ghana's Parliament, becoming the first Indian PM to do so. Hosted by Speaker Alban Bagbin, the address celebrated the enduring India-Ghana partnership built on shared democratic values and anti-colonial struggles. PM Modi thanked President John Dramani Mahama and the Ghanaian people for conferring a National Honour upon him. Quoting Ghanaian leader Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Modi emphasized the importance of unity, peace, and democratic institutions. He highlighted India's democratic ethos, diverse culture, and commitment to inclusive development. Addressing global challenges such as climate change and terrorism, PM Modi called for a united Global South voice in global governance and noted India's role in securing permanent G20 membership for the African Union. He praised Ghana's vibrant Parliament and welcomed the Ghana-India Parliamentary Friendship Society. Reaffirming strong bilateral ties, PM Modi pledged India's continued support for Ghana's growth and prosperity.



PM Modi Addresses Indian Diaspora in Trinidad & Tobago, Receives Highest National Honour

3rd July 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a vibrant gathering of over 4,000 members of the Indian diaspora in Trinidad & Tobago, marking a historic occasion during the 180th anniversary of the arrival of Indian immigrants. He was warmly welcomed with a traditional Indo-Trinidadian reception and attended by Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, who announced the conferment of the nation's highest civilian award, The Order of the Republic of Trinidad & Tobago, upon PM Modi.

Expressing deep gratitude, PM Modi praised the diaspora's resilience and commitment to preserving Indian culture. He announced the extension of OCI cards to sixth-generation persons of Indian origin and support for preserving the Girmitiya heritage. Highlighting India's developmental strides, PM Modi spoke of achievements in infrastructure, AI, digital innovation, and poverty alleviation—lifting 250 million out of extreme poverty.

He also discussed India's global leadership in digital payments and green growth, expressing hope for UPI adoption in Trinidad & Tobago. Emphasizing shared democratic values and deep-rooted ties, PM Modi reiterated India's commitment to supporting the progress of Trinidad & Tobago. The address was followed by a vibrant cultural programme featuring artists from the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for Cultural Cooperation, further celebrating Indo-Caribbean heritage and people-to-people ties.



Prime Minister Modi's Historic Visit to Argentina Reinforces Strategic Ties

5th July 2024



Prime Minister Narendra Modi met Argentine President Javier Milei during his historic visit—the first by an Indian PM in 57 years—coinciding with 75 years of diplomatic ties between the two nations. Held in Buenos Aires, the talks covered a broad spectrum of cooperation, including critical minerals, oil & gas, defence, nuclear energy, agriculture, digital infrastructure (UPI), space, and pharmaceuticals.

Both leaders emphasized diversifying the bilateral trade basket and explored expanding the India-MERCOSUR Preferential Trade Agreement. They reaffirmed commitment to combat terrorism, with PM Modi thanking President Milei for condemning the recent Pahalgam attack.

The leaders also stressed the importance of amplifying the voice of the Global South and pledged closer collaboration to elevate the strategic partnership. Before concluding his visit, PM Modi paid tributes to Mahatma Gandhi and Rabindranath Tagore in Buenos Aires. He invited President Milei to visit India in the near future.

PM Modi Participates in 17th BRICS Summit in Brazil, Calls for Global Reform and Stronger South-South Cooperation

6th July 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi took part in the 17th BRICS Summit held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 6–7 July 2025. The Summit focused on strengthening multilateralism, reforming global governance, ensuring peace and security, and fostering development in key areas such as artificial intelligence (AI). During the session on global governance, PM Modi emphasized the urgent need to reform outdated institutions like the UN Security Council, IMF, World Bank, and WTO, highlighting that these structures are ill-equipped to address 21st-century challenges. Stressing India's commitment to the Global South, he urged greater support for developing nations, including enhanced access to climate finance and technology.

Addressing peace and security, PM Modi condemned terrorism and the recent Pahalgam attack, urging zero tolerance and strong global action against state-backed terror. He also expressed concern over conflicts from West Asia to Europe, advocating dialogue and diplomacy. In the session on multilateralism and AI, Modi proposed four key ideas: making the BRICS New Development Bank more demand-driven, establishing a science and research repository for the Global South, securing critical mineral supply chains, and promoting responsible AI development. The Summit concluded with the adoption of the Rio de Janeiro Declaration.



PM Modi Meets Brazilian President Lula to Strengthen Strategic Partnership

6th July 2025

PM Modi met with Brazilian President Luiz Inácio Lula da Silva during his state visit to Brasilia, reaffirming the deep-rooted Strategic Partnership between India and Brazil. The leaders discussed cooperation across diverse sectors such as trade, defence, renewable energy, health, space, digital infrastructure, and new technologies including AI and critical minerals. Both agreed to aim for USD 20 billion in bilateral trade over the next five years and welcomed a ministerial-level mechanism to boost economic ties.

They emphasized a zero-tolerance approach to terrorism, with President Lula expressing solidarity following the Pahalgam attack. The two leaders also addressed global issues, calling for reform of international institutions like the UN Security Council, and pledged joint action on climate change.

Six MoUs were signed in areas including counter-terrorism, IPR, and digital cooperation. A joint statement was adopted, and PM Modi invited President Lula to visit India.



EAM Dr. Jaishankar Meets Chinese FM Wang Yi

14th July 2025

External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar met Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi in Beijing on July 14, 2025, as part of his visit to China. Both ministers reviewed India-China bilateral relations and acknowledged recent efforts to stabilize and rebuild ties, especially in light of the 75th anniversary of diplomatic relations.

They agreed on enhancing people-to-people exchanges, including facilitating travel and resuming the Kailash Manasarovar Yatra. EAM emphasized the importance of peace and tranquility along the border for positive bilateral development, and urged further de-escalation and cooperation on trans-border rivers, including the sharing of hydrological data.

Trade barriers and economic restrictions were also raised. The discussions also covered global and regional matters, with EAM extending support for China's SCO Presidency. Dr. Jaishankar additionally met with China's Vice President Han Zheng and CPC's Liu Jianchao. The talks were described as constructive, with both sides committing to ongoing dialogue through future visits and engagements.



India Hosts 2nd BIMSTEC Ports Conclave to Boost Maritime Cooperation

14th July 2025

India hosted the 2nd BIMSTEC Ports Conclave in Visakhapatnam on 14–15 July 2025 under the theme “Navigating the Future: Blue Economy, Innovation and Sustainable Partnerships.” Inaugurated by Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, the conclave brought together delegations from BIMSTEC member states, including maritime officials, port authorities, industry leaders, and development partners.

Discussions focused on harmonising customs procedures, enhancing regional logistics, port-linked industrial zones, cruise tourism, digital connectivity, workforce upskilling, green shipping, and academic collaboration.

The event underscored India’s commitment to its Neighbourhood First policy and aimed at strengthening maritime cooperation and connectivity in the Bay of Bengal region, with a shared vision for a sustainable and innovative blue economy across BIMSTEC nations.



MoS Margherita Strengthens India's Engagement with Eswatini, Lesotho & South Africa

25th July 2025

Minister of State for External Affairs and Textiles, Shri Pabitra Margherita, visited the Kingdom of Eswatini and the Kingdom of Lesotho from July 18–22 and led India's delegation at the G20 Development Ministers' Meeting (DMM) in South Africa from July 23–25, 2025.

In Eswatini, MoS met King Mswati III, Prime Minister Russell Dlamini, and key ministers to discuss cooperation in trade, health, education, and capacity building. He also visited the India-assisted Royal Science and Technology Park.

In Lesotho, he met King Letsie III and PM Samuel Matekane, and signed an MoU on digital solutions for public service delivery. MoS also engaged with business leaders and the Indian diaspora.

At the G20 DMM in Kruger National Park, MoS endorsed efforts to combat illicit financial flows and build resilient social protection systems, while advocating for SDG acceleration and continuity of India's G20 legacy. He held bilateral meetings with counterparts from South Africa, France, the UK, Russia, and the Netherlands.



India-China WMCC Discusses Border Stability and Future Talks

23rd July 2025

The 34th Meeting of the Working Mechanism for Consultation & Coordination (WMCC) on India-China Border Affairs took place on July 23, 2025, in New Delhi. The Indian delegation was led by Joint Secretary (East Asia) Shri Gourangalal Das, while the Chinese side was headed by Mr. Hong Liang, Director General of Boundary & Oceanic Affairs, Chinese MFA.

Both sides reviewed the border situation and expressed satisfaction over prevailing peace and gradual normalization of ties. They agreed to maintain regular diplomatic and military exchanges through established mechanisms.

The meeting focused on advancing effective border management and implementing understandings reached in previous SR Talks and WMCC sessions. The two sides also discussed preparations for the next Special Representatives' Talks to be hosted in India later this year. Mr. Hong Liang also called on Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri during his visit.



PM Modi's UK Visit Elevates India-UK Strategic Ties

24th July 2025

During his official visit to the UK, Prime Minister Narendra Modi met British PM Sir Keir Starmer at Chequers. The leaders held detailed discussions and announced the signing of the historic India-UK Comprehensive Economic and Trade Agreement (CETA), a landmark development poised to boost bilateral trade, investment, and job creation. A Double Contribution Convention was also agreed upon to enhance service sector mobility and reduce business costs.

The two Prime Ministers adopted the India-UK Vision 2035 to guide the next decade of cooperation in defence, education, innovation, climate action, and people-to-people ties. A Defence Industrial Roadmap and the first anniversary of the Technology and Security Initiative (TSI) were celebrated, focusing on semiconductors, AI, biotech, and critical minerals. PM Modi highlighted cooperation between India's GIFT City and the UK's financial ecosystem. The UK's support for India's education reforms was also noted, with the University of Southampton becoming the first foreign university to open a campus in India.

Both leaders condemned terrorism, agreed to deepen counter-extremism cooperation, and discussed global issues including Indo-Pacific and West Asia. PM Modi expressed gratitude for UK solidarity after the Pahalgam attack and invited PM Starmer to visit India soon.



India-Maldives Inaugurate New Defence Ministry Building in Male

25th July 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Maldivian President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu jointly inaugurated the newly constructed Ministry of Defence building in Male. The state-of-the-art, eleven-storey structure overlooks the Indian Ocean and stands as a testament to the enduring defence and security cooperation between India and Maldives.

Built with Indian financial assistance, the facility aims to strengthen the operational capacity of Maldivian defence and law enforcement agencies. The project reflects India's commitment to supporting its maritime neighbours and promoting regional security under its "Neighbourhood First" policy and deepening strategic ties in the Indian Ocean Region.



India and Japan Reaffirm Strategic Partnership at Bilateral Dialogue in New Delhi

28th July 2025



Foreign Secretary Shri Vikram Misri met with Japan's Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Takehiro Funakoshi, in New Delhi on July 28, 2025, for the bilateral Foreign Secretary–Vice Minister Dialogue. The two sides reaffirmed the significance of the India–Japan Special Strategic and Global Partnership in promoting peace, stability, and prosperity across the Indo-Pacific region.

The dialogue reviewed progress in key areas of bilateral cooperation, including political relations, defence and security, economic security, trade and investment, infrastructure development, and technological collaboration.

Both delegations also discussed regional and global issues of shared interest. The engagement served to deepen mutual understanding, identify new areas for cooperation, and further strengthen the longstanding and multi-dimensional relationship between India and Japan.

India-Nepal Boundary Working Group Convenes for 7th Meeting to Advance Border Cooperation

29th July 2025

The 7th meeting of the India-Nepal Boundary Working Group (BWG) was held in New Delhi on July 28–29, 2025. Led by Shri Hitesh Kumar S. Makwana from India and Mr. Prakash Joshi from Nepal, both delegations reviewed progress made since the 6th BWG meeting in August 2019.

A major outcome was the joint adoption of “Updated Modalities for Inspection, Repair & Maintenance of Boundary Pillars,” aimed at enhancing cooperation along the shared border. The two countries also finalized a three-year work plan and committed to deploying advanced technologies for boundary work.

The meeting concluded with an agreement to hold the next Survey Officials Committee (SOC) meeting in Nepal at a mutually convenient time.



India and Fiji Deepen Bilateral Ties

30th July 2025

The 6th India-Fiji Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) were held in Suva on 29 July 2025, led by Dr. Neena Malhotra, Secretary (South), and Dr. Raijeli Taga, Fiji's Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs. The talks covered a wide range of bilateral cooperation areas, including health, education, trade, agriculture, renewable energy, climate change, and people-to-people ties. India expressed appreciation for Fiji's solidarity following the April 2025 Pahalgam terror attack. Both sides agreed to sustain high-level exchanges and deepen cooperation, particularly under the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC), aligned with India's Act East Policy. Secretary Malhotra also met with key Fijian ministers and officials, and held discussions with Fiji's business leaders. The visit reinforced India's commitment to the Pacific region and strengthened the strategic partnership between the two countries, with the next FOC scheduled to take place in New Delhi in 2026.



India and UAE Reaffirm Commitment to Strengthen Strategic Partnership

31st July 2025

Prime Minister Narendra Modi and UAE President His Highness Sheikh Mohamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan held a telephonic conversation on July 30, 2025, reaffirming their commitment to deepen the India-UAE Comprehensive Strategic Partnership.

They reviewed progress in bilateral cooperation and discussed ways to enhance collaboration for mutual benefit. President Sheikh Mohamed congratulated PM Modi on becoming India's second longest-serving Prime Minister.

PM Modi thanked him for his warm wishes and conveyed appreciation for his continued friendship toward India.





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