



# Newsletter - March 2025

## Bilateral Exchanges



### Meeting of External Affairs Minister of India with Minister for Foreign Affairs of Nepal

External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar met with Hon'ble Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba on 18 March 2025. Both leaders engaged in talks on various aspects of bilateral cooperation, focusing on strengthening mutual ties and collaboration.

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### Meeting of Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change of India with Minister of Forests & Environment of Nepal

Hon'ble Minister for Environment, Forest & Climate Change Bhupender Yadav met Hon'ble Minister of Forests & Environment, Shri Ain Bahadur Shahi Thakuri in Delhi on 7 March 2025. The leaders deliberated upon how initiatives like the International Big Cat Alliance, Mission LIFE and Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam have been significant in mitigation and adaptation efforts for both our countries.

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### Cooperation in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Sector including Waste Management

India and Nepal has strengthened cooperation in Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene Sector including Waste Management with a new MoU signed by India's Hon'ble Minister of Jal Shakti Shri C R Patil and Nepal's Hon'ble Minister for Water Supply Shri Pradeep Yadav on 3 March 2025.

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## Visit of officers & NCC cadets from India to Nepal

Strengthening the bond of kinship between the future generations, two officers & sixteen NCC cadets from different states of India led by Lt Cdr Rahul Mishra and Maj K Preethi visited Nepal from 21 Feb to 04 Mar 2025 as part of the Youth Exchange Programme

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## The 13th meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group on Border Management

The 13th meeting of the India-Nepal Joint Working Group (JWG) on Border Management was held in Pokhara, Nepal on 27-28 March 2025. The Indian delegation was led by Mr. Mihir Kumar, Joint Secretary (Border Management), Ministry of Home Affairs, GoI and the Nepali delegation was led by Mr. Ramchandra Tiwari, Joint Secretary (Security and Coordination), Ministry of Home Affairs, GoN.

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## Review of the existing infrastructure at ICP Raxaul-Birgunj and ICD Sirsiya

Shri Jayant Singh, Chairman, Land Ports Authority of India and Shri Munu Mahawar, AS(North), Ministry of External Affairs visited ICP Raxaul-Birgunj and ICD, Sirsiya on 29 March 2025 to see the existing infrastructure and day-to-day operations. They also toured the Maitri Bridge connecting India-Nepal.

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## Development Partnership



### Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of Operation Theatre Building of Rapti Eye Hospital, at Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan City, Dang

Foundation stone for the construction of Operation Theatre Building of Rapti Eye Hospital at Tulsipur Sub-Metropolitan City, Dang was laid on 4 March 2025 jointly by representatives of India and Nepal. This High Impact Community Development Project (HICDP) is being built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs 43.31 million.

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### Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of School Building of Shree Tribhuvan Secondary School at Inaruwa Municipality, Sunsari

Foundation stone for the construction of School Building of Shree Tribhuvan Secondary School at Inaruwa Municipality, Sunsari was laid on 11 March 2025 jointly by representatives of India and Nepal. This HICDP is being built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs 24.83 million.

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### Inauguration of School Building of Shree Janakalyan Secondary School, Makawanpur, Nepal

The School Building of Shree Janakalyan Secondary School, Makawanpur was jointly inaugurated on 19 March 2025 by representatives of India and Nepal. This HICDP is built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs 30 million.

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### Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of Shree Nepal Rastriya Secondary School Multipurpose Building at Dullu Municipality, Dailekh

Foundation stone for the construction of Shree Nepal Rastriya Secondary School Multipurpose Building at Dullu Municipality, Dailekh was laid on 24 March 2025 jointly by representatives of India and Nepal. This HICDP is being built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs 39 million.

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### Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of School Building of Shree Janata Secondary School at Surunga Municipality, Saptari

Foundation stone for the construction of School Building of Shree Janata Secondary School at Surunga Municipality, Saptari was laid on 26 March 2025 jointly by representatives of India and Nepal. This HICDP is being built with Government of India's financial assistance at the project cost of NRs 27.6 million.

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### Foundation stone laying ceremony for the construction of Building of Bachhauli Secondary School at Ratnanagar, Chitwan

Foundation stone for the construction of Building of Bachhauli Secondary School at Ratnanagar, Chitwan was laid 30 March 2025 jointly by representatives of India and Nepal. This HICDP is being built with Government of India's financial assistance.

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## Economy and Commerce



### Unveiling of "Business Climate Survey for Indian Companies in Nepal"

Nepal India Chamber of Commerce and Industry (NICCI) has prepared a report titled "Business Climate Survey for Indian Companies in Nepal" with the support of Embassy of India, Kathmandu. DCM Prasanna Shrivastava unveiled the publication along with NICCI office-bearers and other dignitaries on 9 March 2025.

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## Cultural and People-to-People Engagements



### Celebration of 60th Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day

Embassy of India, Kathmandu celebrated the 60th Indian Technical & Economic Cooperation (ITEC) Day on 21 March 2025. Several Members of Parliament, senior Government officials, ITEC alumni and prominent Nepalese alumni of academic institutions from India attended ITEC Day celebrations. Hon'ble Foreign Minister of Nepal Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba graced the occasion as the Chief Guest.

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### Celebration of the 23rd Golden Jubilee Scholarship Day

The Embassy of India, Kathmandu celebrated the 23rd Golden Jubilee Scholarship Day on 22 March 2025 with participation of nearly 200 students supported by the scholarship. Deans of various institutes and principals of eminent schools also attended the celebration.

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## Celebration of International Women's Day

On the occasion of International Women's Day, Embassy of India, Kathmandu, in partnership with Maiti Nepal, hosted a special yoga session for young girls on 8 March 2025. The event, which saw enthusiastic participation from the children of Maiti Nepal, focused on teaching simple yet effective yoga postures that can be incorporated into daily routines to enhance health and promote overall well-being.

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## Indian Ambassador's Invitational Golf Tournament for 2025

Embassy of India, Kathmandu hosted Ambassador's Invitational Golf Tournament for 2025 at Gokarna Forest Resort on 8 March 2025. The event witnessed attendance from prominent golfers & Govt officials, diplomats and golf enthusiasts. Ambassador of India to Nepal applauded prize winners & the spirited participation by all.

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## Interaction with a 12-member delegation from Sankhuwasabha district, Nepal

On 9 March 2025, Embassy of India, Kathmandu hosted a 12-member delegation from Sankhuwasabha district of Nepal led by Mayors of Khandbari & Panchkhapan municipalities and Chairpersons of Chichila & Silichong rural municipalities, who returned from India, on the completion of a 10-days long study tour.

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## Mayur Bhanj Chhau Dance performance across Nepal

ICCR supported Mayur Bhanj Chhau Dance troupe led by Shri Kuleshwar Thakur performed in various cities in Nepal including Kathmandu, Janakpur and Dhangadhi from 21-27 Mar 2025. The troupe also organised Mayur Bhanj Chhau Dance workshops at various HICDP schools in Kathmandu, Janakpur and Dhangadhi, as well as at Maiti Nepal in Kathmandu.

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## Interaction with journalists and youth delegation from Nepal

On 26 March 2025, Embassy of India, Kathmandu hosted 12 economic journalists who visited India on a familiarization trip, 6 Nepali journalists who visited Mahakumbh and 9-member youth delegation who participated in the BIMSTEC Youth Summit held in Ahmedabad, in February 2025. The visiting journalists and delegation shared their experiences and insights from engaging discussions on a range of topics, including skill development, entrepreneurship, startups, and culture.

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## Sports



## India wins ICC Champions Trophy 2025

India clinched the ICC Champions Trophy 2025 title in Dubai, defeating New Zealand by four wickets in the final on 9 Mar 2025. With this triumph, India becomes the first team to secure the ICC Champions Trophy three times, adding to their victories in 2002 and 2013, while also remaining unbeaten throughout the tournament.

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## Operation Brahma



### First Responder in times of crisis

India launched Operation Brahma to provide necessary support, including Search and Rescue (SAR), humanitarian aid, disaster relief and medical assistance, following the devastating earthquake that struck Myanmar on 28th March 2025. Being the First Responder in times of crisis in the Neighbourhood, Operation Brahma is a whole-of-government endeavour by India to respond to widespread destruction in Myanmar. As on 1 April 2025, six aircraft and five Indian Naval ships have delivered 625 MT of Humanitarian Aid and Disaster Relief (HADR) material. India's ongoing efforts under Operation Brahma reflect its commitment to respond swiftly and in full measure to natural disasters in her Neighbourhood. As a First Responder, India stands with Myanmar, a key partner of our Neighbourhood First and Act East policy.

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भारतीय राजदूतावास  
काठमांडू, नेपाल  
Embassy of India  
Kathmandu, Nepal

## Coming up in India

### World Audio-Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) - 2025



India is hosting the inaugural edition of WAVES from 1-4 May 2025 at Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai. It will bring together key stake holders in Media and Entertainment industry across the world.

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### Prime Minister's Yoga Awards 2025



Applications are invited for the Prime Minister's Awards for Yoga 2025 for the individuals/organisations with outstanding contribution to the promotion and development of Yoga. The last date of submission of the application has been extended till 15 April 2025.

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