

MOFA BULLETIN

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**Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

Singha Durbar, Kathmandu

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## **A. BILATERAL ENGAGEMENTS**

### **VISIT OF THE DUKE AND DUCHESS OF EDINBURGH TO NEPAL**

The Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh of the United Kingdom (UK) visited Nepal from 4 to 9 February 2025. During their stay, the Duke and Duchess paid a courtesy call on President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel at the Office of the President. Matters related to further deepening the age-old ties of friendship and cooperation between Nepal and the UK were discussed. During the call on, the President also received the Annual Report-2024 of British Gurkhas. The Duke and Duchess also visited various



*President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel receiving the Duke and Duchess of Edinburgh at his Office*

sites in and around Kathmandu and Pokhara during their time in Nepal.

### **OFFICIAL VISIT OF THE PRIME MINISTER TO THAILAND**

Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli paid an Official Visit to the Kingdom of Thailand from 1 to 5 April 2025 at the cordial invitation of the Prime Minister of Thailand Ms. Paetongtarn Shinawatra. It was the first ever Official Visit of the Prime Minister of Nepal to Thailand since the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries in 1959. The Prime Minister led delegation-level talks with the Prime Minister of Thailand at the Government House in Bangkok on 2 April.

During the talks, both Prime Ministers expressed their satisfaction over the existing state of bilateral relations and



*Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli with Prime Minister of Thailand Ms. Paetongtarn Shinawatra*



vowed to further strengthen the relations for mutual benefit. They also underscored the importance of enhancing cooperation in

areas such as trade, tourism, investment, connectivity and people-to-people ties. In addition to bilateral relations, they agreed

to strengthen Nepal-Thailand cooperation at regional as well as multilateral levels.



*Delegation-level talks between the Prime Ministers of Nepal and Thailand*

Prior to the delegation-level meeting, the Prime Minister was

accorded a guard of honour at the Government House in Bangkok.



*The Prime Minister receiving the Guard of Honour*

Following the talks, the Prime Ministers witnessed a ceremony to sign the Agreement between the Government of Nepal and the Government of Thailand on Cultural Cooperation and the Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of Nepal and the Government of Thailand on Tourism Cooperation. Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba, Minister for Foreign Affairs signed the MoU/ Agreement on behalf of the Government of Nepal and Ms. Sudawan Wangsuphakijkosol, Minister of Culture and Mr. Sorawang Tienthong, Minister

for Tourism and Sports signed the MoU/Agreement on behalf of the Government of Thailand.

In presence of the two Prime

Ministers, Nepali and Thai private sectors also signed six MOUs with a view to enhancing private sector engagements and cooperation in



*MOU/Agreement signing ceremony*



various fields, including trade, tourism, agriculture, health and education.

In addition to the official bilateral talks, the Prime Minister held

an interaction with prominent business leaders of Nepal and Thailand, and visited Asian Institute of Technology (AIT) and delivered a keynote statement as well as interacted with the

faculties and students at AIT during his four-day stay in Bangkok. Similarly, the Prime Minister participated in the 6th BIMSTEC Summit held on 4 April in Bangkok.

## VISIT OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER TO OMAN

At the invitation of Mr. Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Sultanate of Oman, Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba led a Nepali delegation to the 8th Indian Ocean Conference held in Muscat on 16-17 February 2025, which was held under the theme “Voyage to New Horizons of Maritime Partnership.”

The Foreign Minister participated in the opening and plenary sessions and delivered remarks in the 2nd plenary session on “Amplifying the Voice of the Global South.” She emphasized the transformative potential of the Global South through North-South Dialogue, South-South and Triangular Cooperation.

During the visit, two Memorandums of Understanding (MoUs) were signed, one on tourism cooperation and the other on collaboration between



*The Foreign Minister in a bilateral meeting with Mr. Sayyid Badr bin Hamad bin Hamood Albusaidi, Foreign Minister of the Sultanate of Oman*

the respective Institutes of Foreign Affairs of Nepal and Oman.

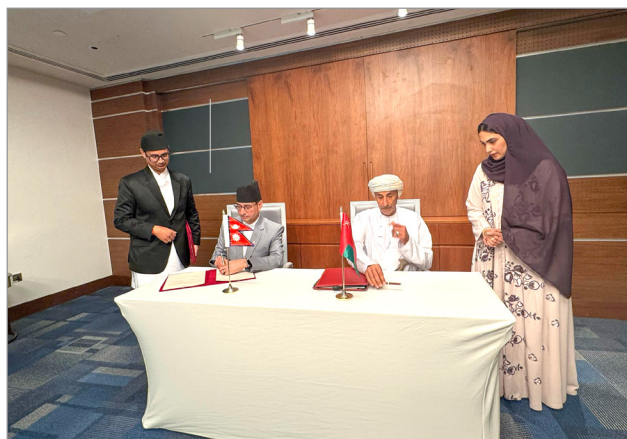
The Foreign Minister also held bilateral meetings with her counterparts from India, Bhutan, Maldives, Sri Lanka, Oman and Iran; and the Minister of State from Japan, UAE, Qatar, the Secretary General of BIMSTEC, and former Sri Lankan President Mr. Ranil Wickremesinghe. Additionally, she met with Omani Minister for Tourism and Heritage Mr. Salim

bin Mohammed Al Mahrouqi and had a courtesy meeting with Mr. Salim bin Nasser Al Aufi, Minister for Energy and Minerals.

On 18 February, she visited the Embassy of Nepal in Muscat, held a virtual meeting with Nepali Ambassadors/Heads of Missions in GCC countries and interacted with the Nepali community in Oman at a programme organized by the Embassy.



*Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba and Mr. Salim bin Mohammed Al Mahrouqi, Minister of Heritage and Tourism of the Sultanate of Oman signing the MoU on Cooperation in the Field of Tourism*



*Ambassador of Nepal to Oman Mr. Dornath Aryal and Head of the Diplomatic Academy Sheikh Humaid Almaani signing the MoU on the cooperation between the Institutes of Foreign Affairs/Diplomatic Academy*



## OFFICIAL VISIT OF SHEIKH ABDULLAH BIN ZAYED AL NAHYAN, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES TO NEPAL

Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the United Arab Emirates (UAE), visited Nepal on 22-23 April 2025.

A bilateral delegation-level meeting was held between Nepal and UAE led respectively by Mr. Prakash Man Singh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Urban Development, and Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan. The two sides discussed various aspects of bilateral relations, focusing on enhancing cooperation in trade, economic partnership, labour, tourism and climate change.



*Delegation-level meeting between Nepal and UAE*

In addition, Sheikh Abdullah bin Zayed Al Nahyan paid separate courtesy calls on President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel and the

Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli prior to his departure to Abu Dhabi.



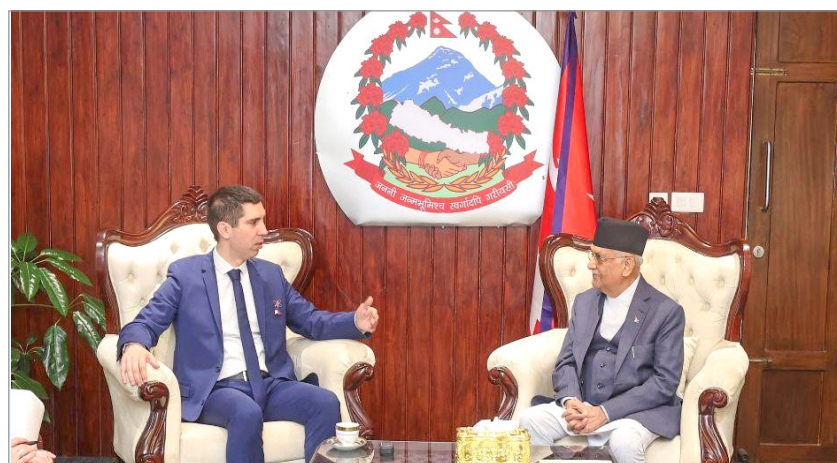
*Courtesy call on the President of Nepal by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the UAE*



*Courtesy call on the Prime Minister by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the UAE*

## VISIT OF THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MOLDOVA, MR. MIHAI POPȘOI TO NEPAL

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Moldova, Mr. Mihai Popșoi visited Nepal on 19-20 March 2025. During the visit, Mr. Popșoi paid courtesy calls on Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli and Minister for Industry, Commerce, and Supplies Mr. Damodar Bhandari. On the occasion, both sides held discussions on various matters with a view to further expanding bilateral relations for mutual benefits.



*The Prime Minister with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Moldova*



## VISIT OF MR. PAN YUE, MINISTER FOR NATIONAL ETHNIC AFFAIRS COMMISSION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Minister for National Ethnic Affairs Commission of the People's Republic of China, Mr. Pan Yue visited Nepal from 23 to 26 February 2025 at the invitation of

Mr. Ram Bahadur Thapamagar, Chairman of the Indigenous Nationalities Commission (INC) of Nepal. During the visit, Nepal and China signed the

Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to strengthen cooperation on ethnic affairs amid a function on 25 February 2025.

## VISIT OF MS. CUI LI, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE GOOD NEIGHBORLINESS, FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION COMMISSION (GNFCC) OF THE SHANGHAI COOPERATION ORGANIZATION (SCO) AND FORMER VICE MINISTER OF NATIONAL HEALTH COMMISSION OF CHINA

Ms. Cui Li, Vice President of GNFCC of Shanghai Cooperation Organization and Former Vice Minister of the National Health Commission of China visited Nepal from 5 to 8 March 2025.

She paid courtesy calls on Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba on 6 March 2025. During the meeting, discussions were held on strengthening mutual relations between the SCO and Nepal and between Nepal and China.

During the visit, the Chinese delegation also participated in the "Founding Ceremony of the China – Nepal Lifeline Express Centre of



*The Foreign Minister with the Vice President of GNFCC of Shanghai Cooperation Organization and Former Vice Minister of the National Health Commission of China*

Cooperation for the Prevention of Blindness" held on 7 March 2025. On this occasion, the Chinese

side also handed over some health supplies to hospitals of Nepal.

## VISIT OF MR. HUANG LUQI, VICE COMMISSIONER, NATCM AND PRESIDENT OF CHINA ACADEMY OF CHINESE MEDICAL SCIENCES (CACMS) TO NEPAL

Mr. Huang Luqi, Vice Commissioner of the National Administration of Traditional Chinese Medicine (NATCM) and President of the China Academy

of Chinese Medical Sciences (CACMS), visited Nepal from 22 to 25 March 2025. During the visit, he met with Minister for Health and Population Mr.

Pradip Poudel. On the occasion, matters related to strengthening traditional medicine cooperation between China and Nepal were discussed.

## VISIT OF MR. LEE JEONGKYU, SPECIAL ENVOY OF THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Lee Jeongkyu, Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea visited Nepal from 21 to 22 January 2025. During his visit, he paid courtesy calls on Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mr. Bishnu Prasad Paudel and Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security, Mr. Sharat Singh Bhandari.

He also had a meeting with Foreign Secretary Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai at the latter's office on



*The Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister with Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea*

21 January 2025. Matters related to bilateral relations as well as ways to further enhancing the existing

cooperation between Nepal and the Republic of Korea were discussed on the occasion.





*The Foreign Secretary with the Special Envoy of the Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Korea*

## HANDOVER OF RELIEF MATERIALS TO MYANMAR

Following the devastating 7.7 magnitude earthquake centered in Sagaing, Myanmar, the Government of Nepal, in collaboration with the private

sector, dispatched a relief flight carrying 27 tons of humanitarian assistance to support the earthquake-affected people of Myanmar.

Nepal also expressed its deepest condolences to the Government and people of Myanmar for the loss of lives and destruction caused by the earthquake.



*Relief materials ready for dispatch overseen by the Foreign Minister*



*Handing over the relief materials*

## B. REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL AFFAIRS

### PARTICIPATION OF THE PRIME MINISTER IN THE 6TH BIMSTEC SUMMIT

Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli led a Nepali delegation to the 6th BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand on 4 April 2025. Addressing the Summit, the Prime Minister reiterated Nepal's commitments to the BIMSTEC Charter; highlighted multi-pronged regional and global challenges compounded by climate change, economic disparities and geopolitical fluidity; and called for deeper regional collaboration to resolve these challenges.

On the sidelines, the Prime Minister held separate bilateral Meetings with Shri Narendra Modi, Prime



*Respective Heads of Delegation to the 6th BIMSTEC Summit held in Bangkok, Thailand on 4 April 2025*

Minister of India; Dr. Harini Amarasuriya, Prime Minister of

the Democratic Socialist Republic of Sri Lanka; Senior General Min



Aung Hlaing, Chairman of the State Administration Council and Prime Minister of the Republic of the Union of Myanmar; and Mr. Dasho Tshering Tobgay, Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bhutan. During these Meetings, the Prime Ministers exchanged views on various aspects of friendly bilateral relations and cooperation including growing collaboration within BIMSTEC.

Similarly, Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba attended the 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on 3 April, leading up to the Summit. The Foreign Minister lauded the role of BIMSTEC in championing common interests of the people in the region and underlined the importance of harnessing synergies of South Asia and Southeast Asia for building a prosperous, resilient and open Bay of Bengal region. Prior to the Meeting, she signed the BIMSTEC Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation on behalf of the Government of Nepal.

On the occasion, the Foreign Minister had a bilateral meeting with Mr. Arun Hemachandra, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs and Foreign Employment of Sri Lanka and discussed matters of mutual interests.



*The Foreign Minister at the 20th BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting*

The Summit adopted landmark instruments vital for regional cooperation within BIMSTEC such as Bangkok Vision, 2030; Report of Eminent Persons' Group on Future Direction of BIMSTEC; Rules of Procedures on BIMSTEC Mechanisms; BIMSTEC Leaders'

Joint Statement on the Impact of Earthquake in Myanmar and Thailand; and the Summit Declaration. Going by the procedure, Bangladesh assumed its responsibility as Chair of the BIMSTEC.



*Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba, together with her counterparts from BIMSTEC Members, signing the BIMSTEC Agreement on Maritime Transport Cooperation at a special event in Bangkok*

## PARTICIPATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER IN THE RAISINA DIALOGUE 2025

Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba participated in the 10th edition of Raisina Dialogue from 17 to 19 March 2025 as well as in the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Conclave on 20 March 2025 in New Delhi. She participated in the Panel Discussion on "Climate Cataclysm: The Adaptation Agenda is Gasping", where she stressed on the need for investment in climate-resilient infrastructure and for building robust social protection systems to provide a safety net for vulnerable populations. Among other things, she focused on the need for global



*The Foreign Minister addressing the panel discussion at the Raisina Dialogue*

solidarity and accountability in the quest for inclusive economic growth, human rights and climate justice and highlighted the urgent need for debt relief for vulnerable

countries.

The Foreign Minister also spoke in the Raisina Ideas Pod on issues of importance to the Global South, including on reforms of global



governance architecture, climate justice, a more equitable and stable financial architecture, technology transfer and making trade work for all. Emphasising Nepal's role in regional cooperation and environmental sustainability, the Foreign Minister shared the information regarding the 'Sagarmatha Sambaad', a global

dialogue forum initiated by Nepal with its first edition on 16-18 May 2025 in Kathmandu under the theme of 'Climate Change, Mountains and the Future of Humanity', and invited the high-level dignitaries present in the Dialogue to participate in the Sambaad.

The Foreign Minister also

addressed the inaugural edition of the Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) Conclave, where in her remarks, she emphasised the critical intersection of DPI, innovation, artificial intelligence (AI) and diplomacy, aligning with Nepal's vision of leveraging technology to achieve inclusive and sustainable progress.

On the sidelines of the Raisina Dialogue, the Foreign Minister held separate bilateral talks with Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India; Mr. Andrii Sybiha, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine; Mr. Mihai Popșoi, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Moldova; Mr. Enrique A. Manalo, Secretary of Foreign Affairs of the Philippines; Ms. Maka Botchorishvili, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia; and Mr. Ricky Gill, Special Assistant to the President and the Senior



*The Foreign Minister with the External Affairs Minister of India*

Director for South and Central Asian Affairs at the National

Security Council of the United States of America.



*The Foreign Minister with the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Moldova*



*The Foreign Minister with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Georgia*

## SIGNING OF VISA EXEMPTION AGREEMENT BETWEEN NEPAL AND UKRAINE

Also on the sidelines, Nepal and Ukraine signed an agreement on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and service passports in New Delhi on 18 March 2025. Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba and Minister for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine Mr. Andrii Sybiha signed the Agreement. This Agreement aims to facilitate smoother travel for official and diplomatic personnel between the two nations.



*The Foreign Minister with the Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine*



## PARTICIPATION OF THE FOREIGN MINISTER IN THE SESSION OF THE UN HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL

Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba led a Nepali delegation to the High Level Segment during the 58th regular session of the Human Rights Council held from 24 to 26 February 2025 at Palais des Nations in Geneva.

The Foreign Minister delivered the national statement in the Council on 24 February 2025 where she reaffirmed Nepal's commitment to human rights. Highlighting Nepal's constructive engagements with human rights instruments and mechanisms as well as the history of the nationally-led peace process, she stressed on the challenges due to the impact of anthropogenic climate change and the invasion of the private sphere by digital technology. She also announced Nepal's candidacy for the membership of Human Rights Council for the



*The Foreign Minister addressing the High-Level Segment of the UN Human Rights Council*

term 2027-2029 and requested for the support of all UN Member States in this regard.

The Foreign Minister held separate bilateral meetings on the sidelines of the High-Level Segment with her counterparts Mr. José Manuel Albares Bueno, Mr. Juraj Blanár and Mr. Ignazio

Cassis from Spain, Slovakia and Switzerland, respectively.

The Foreign Minister also held a meeting with the Deputy Foreign Ministers of Mexico, Norway and Azerbaijan, Mr. Enrique Javier Ochoa Martínez, Mr. Andreas Motzfeldt Kravik and Mr. Elnur Mammadov respectively.



*The Foreign Minister with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights*



*The Foreign Minister with the Foreign Minister of Switzerland*



*The Foreign Minister with the Deputy Foreign Minister of Azerbaijan*



*The Foreign Minister with the Deputy Foreign Minister of Norway*





*The Foreign Minister with the Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of the Slovak Republic*



*The Foreign Minister with the Minister of Foreign Affairs, European Union and Cooperation of Kingdom of Spain*

### THE 3<sup>rd</sup> BIMSTEC AGRICULTURAL MINISTERIAL MEETING IN KATHMANDU

On 9 April 2025, the Ministry of Agriculture and Livestock Development convened the 3<sup>rd</sup> BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture, preceded by the

3<sup>rd</sup> BIMSTEC Senior Officials' Meeting on Agriculture, in Kathmandu in a hybrid format. The Meeting agreed to set up BIMSTEC Regional Food and

Seed Reserves and adopted the Plan of Action on BIMSTEC Fisheries and Livestock Cooperation.



*BIMSTEC Agriculture Ministers, Secretary General and other high officials attending BIMSTEC Ministerial Meeting on Agriculture in Kathmandu*

Mr. Ramnath Adhikari, Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development of Nepal and Mr. U Min Naung, Union Minister of Agriculture, Livestock and Irrigation of Myanmar chaired

and co-chaired the meeting respectively.

Separately, the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development Mr. Adhikari held a

bilateral meeting with his Indian counterpart Mr. Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan and signed an MoU to promote agricultural cooperation between Nepal and India.

### THE FIRST MEETING OF SAARC INTER-GOVERNMENTAL EXPERT GROUP ON POVERTY ALLEVIATION AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

Nepal participated in the First Meeting of SAARC Inter-Governmental Expert Group on Poverty Alleviation and

Sustainable Development Goals in Colombo on 18-19 February 2025. The delegations of SAARC Member States comprising

officials from Ministry of Foreign Affairs and line agencies responsible for SDGs and poverty alleviation attended the Meeting.



The Meeting finalized the Study Report on SDGs and SAARC Plan of Action on Poverty Alleviation containing contextualized SDGs, targets and indicators for SAARC

region, priority policy measures and monitoring mechanism to keep track of the progress. The Meeting also approved the Concept Note on the Structure

and Theme of the SAARC Development Report (SDR) to be published biennially as a tool of monitoring the progress on SDGs in SAARC Region.



*The First Meeting of SAARC Inter-Governmental Expert Group on Poverty Alleviation and SDGs*

## **C. DEVELOPMENT DIPLOMACY**

### **INTER-MINISTERIAL MEETING ON ENHANCING THE SAFETY AND MANAGEMENT OF FOREIGN EMPLOYMENT FOR NEPALI CITIZENS**

A high-level Inter-Ministerial Meeting initiated by Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba was held in Kathmandu on 5 March 2025 with Home Minister, Mr. Ramesh Lekhak and the Minister for Labour, Employment and Social Security, Mr. Sharat Singh Bhandari. Senior officials of the three ministries as well as relevant agencies attended the meeting.

The meeting was convened with the objective of making foreign employment for

Nepali citizens safer, more organized, dignified, reliable and predictable. Discussions focused on strengthening inter-agency coordination, cooperation and enhancing the effectiveness of existing mechanisms governing foreign employment.

The meeting decided to form an inter-agency committee led by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, comprising members from the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, Ministry of

Health and Population, Ministry of Law, Justice and Parliamentary Affairs, Department of Immigration and the Department of Foreign Employment Board. The Committee is mandated to prepare and submit a report containing immediate and short-term solutions along with concrete recommendations, aimed at swiftly addressing and mitigating challenges related to labour migration and foreign employment.

## **D. PUBLIC DIPLOMACY**

### **ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE FIRST EDITION OF THE SAGARMATHA SAMBAAD**

On 21 January 2025, Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli formally announced the convening of the first edition of Sagarmatha Sambaad in Kathmandu. Introducing it as Nepal's first

global dialogue forum, the Prime Minister stated that the inaugural edition will take place from 16 to 18 May 2025 under the theme "Climate Change, Mountains and the Future of Humanity." He noted

that the event coincides with the International Year of Glaciers' Preservation and aims to promote global cooperation in safeguarding fragile mountain ecosystems, with particular focus on the Himalayas.



The Prime Minister highlighted Nepal's leadership in climate stewardship despite its minimal contribution to global emissions. He reaffirmed Nepal's commitment to achieving net-zero emissions by 2045 and called for collective global action to safeguard shared natural resources. Noting Nepal's unique geopolitical position and cultural heritage of discussion and dialogue, he invited nations, institutions and civil society to join hands through the Sagarmatha Sambaad platform to advance inclusive, sustainable and resilient solutions for a better future.



*The Prime Minister announcing the first edition of Sagarmatha Sambaad*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs assigned three Joint Secretaries to look after various aspects of

the Sambaad, for its smooth preparation and successful hosting.

## DIPLOMATIC RETREAT FOR THE DIPLOMATIC COMMUNITY

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in collaboration with Nepal Tourism Board, organized a diplomatic retreat for the Diplomatic Community in Kathmandu from 13 to 15 April 2025 to Ilam, coinciding with Nepali New Year 2082. Residential Ambassadors, Heads of United Nations, and

International Organizations based in Kathmandu along with their spouses participated in the programme.

The participants flew from Kathmandu to Bhadrapur and travelled to Kanyam via land route. In Kanyam, the participants

dressed in different traditional cultural attires and enjoyed activities like horse riding, sight-seeing and cultural shows. Later in the evening, Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba hosted a welcome dinner which concluded with a cultural programme.



*The Foreign Minister and the participants of the Diplomatic Retreat at Kanyam, Ilam*

On the day of Nepali New Year, the participants travelled to Antu Danda view-point early in the morning for sunrise view, and

were also taken for a boat ride in Antu Pokhari. Tea plucking competitions and tea tasting sessions were held, showcasing

different varieties of tea grown in Ilam.



## ***E. PROTOCOL UPDATES***

### **APPOINTMENT OF NEPALI AMBASSADORS**

President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel appointed Mr. Purna Bahadur Nepali as Ambassador of Nepal to the Democratic

Republic of Sri Lanka. Similarly, the following Resident Nepali Ambassadors were accredited as non-resident ambassadors to

different countries during the period.

S.N.	Name	Concurrently Accredited Countries	Residential/Non-Residential
1.	Mr. Bharat Raj Poudyal, Ambassador of Nepal to Canada	Republic of Cuba	Non-Residential
2.	Mr. Dhan Bahadur Oli, Ambassador of Nepal to Kingdom of Thailand	Republic of Vietnam	Non-Residential
		Lao People's Democratic Republic	Non-Residential
3.	Mr. Nirmal Raj Kafle, Ambassador of Nepal to Federative Republic of Brazil	Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela	Non-Residential
4.	Prof. Dr. Krishna Prasad Oli, Ambassador of Nepal to People's Republic of China	Mongolia	Non-Residential
		Democratic People's Republic of Korea	Non-Residential
5.	Mr. Sushil Kumar Lamsal, Ambassador of Nepal to Republic of Egypt	Republic of Lebanon	Non-Residential

### **PRESENTATION OF LETTER OF CREDENCE**

During these three months, President Mr. Ramchandra Paudel, received Letters of Credence of

Ambassadors-designate of the following countries amidst a special ceremony organized at the

Office of the President.

S. N.	Name	Country	Residential/ Non-Residential	Date
1.	Mr. Maeda Toru	Japan	Residential	2025-1-23
2.	Mr. Shalar Geldynazarov	Turkmenistan	Non-Residential	2025-1-23
3.	Mr. Bounmy Vanmany	Lao People's Democratic Republic	Non-Residential	2025-1-23
4.	Dr. Iraj Elahi	Islamic Republic of Iran	Non-Residential	2025-1-23
5.	Mr. Alassane Conte	Republic of Guinea	Non-Residential	2025-3-6
6.	Ms. Joyce Kakuramatsi Kikafunda	Republic of Uganda	Non-Residential	2025-3-6
7.	Mr. Haris Hrle	Bosnia and Herzegovina	Non-Residential	2025-3-6
8.	Mr. Omar Lisandro Castaneda Solares	Republic of Guatemala	Non-Residential	2025-3-6
9.	Mr. Antonio Enrico Bartoli	Italian Republic	Non-Residential	2025-3-6
10.	Ms. Aliko Koutsomitopoulou	Hellenic Republic (Greece)	Non-Residential	2025-3-6



**OUTGOING AMBASSADOR**

Dr. Thomas Prinz, Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany to Nepal left Kathmandu after

completing his tour of duty in Nepal. Foreign Secretary Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai hosted a

farewell luncheon in his honour.

***F. RESCUE AND REPATRIATION EFFORTS*****INITIATION FOR THE RELEASE AND REPATRIATION OF MR. BIPIN JOSHI**

During the Hamas attack on Israel on 7 October 2023, a Nepali national, Mr. Bipin Joshi, was taken hostage. Since then, the Government of Nepal has undertaken multiple high-level diplomatic initiatives to secure his safe release.

Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr. Dev Raj Ghimire sent a letter to the Speaker of the Arab Parliament appealing for support in the matter. Similarly, Prime Minister Mr. KP Sharma Oli held a telephone conversation on 10 April with

President of the Arab Republic of Egypt Mr. Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi. The discussion centred on seeking Egypt's support and facilitation in securing the release of Mr. Joshi.

Foreign Minister Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba also sent formal letters to the Ministers of State for Foreign Affairs of Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, as well as to the Foreign Ministers of Egypt, Türkiye and Iran. These communications requested the respective governments to provide necessary goodwill support and good offices for the

release of Nepali national Mr. Joshi.

Furthermore, during her participation in the "8th Indian Ocean Conference" held in Muscat, Oman, the Minister held bilateral meetings with the State Minister of Foreign Affairs of Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, as well as the Foreign Minister of Iran. In each of these engagements, she requested the Ministers for their necessary facilitation for Mr. Joshi's safe release.

***G. SERVICE DELIVERY AT THE HEADQUARTERS*****PASSPORT SERVICES**

S. N.	Service	Number	Remarks
1	e-Passports issued	3,35,550	Ordinary (34 Pages)
		709	Ordinary (66 Pages)
		132	Diplomatic
		838	Official
		7	Service
2	MRPs/Travel Documents	35	Ordinary
		3	Travel Documents
3	Total Passports Issued	3,37,274	From the Department of Passports, Districts and Missions
4	Emails Responded	6,391	
5	Responses through Social Media	857	
6	Calls Received and Responded	22,318	
7	Verification of Citizenship Records	588	
8	Revenue Collected from the Department of Passports (in NRs)	87,57,00,051 /-	



## CONSULAR SERVICES

S. N.	Details of Services	Number
<b>A</b>	<b><i>Consular and Legal Matters</i></b>	
1	Recommendation Letters issued to the Indian Embassy for Character Verification Report of Nepali citizens temporarily residing in India	142
2	Issuances of NOC for education	925
3	Recommendations for police verification	142
4	Recommendations for procurement of chemicals	32
5	Documents issued for compensation cases abroad	133
6	Efforts for search and rescue of Nepali nationals abroad	251
7	Repatriation of deceased Nepali nationals and funerals conducted for deceased Nepali nationals in abroad	70
8	Correspondences for citizenship renouncement	52
<b>B</b>	<b><i>Visa and Exemption</i></b>	
1	Issuances of diplomatic/official/gratis visa	327
2	Issuance of diplomatic/official Cards	72
3	Issuance of SAARC visa stickers	4
4	Issuance of recommendation letters for exemption	892
5	Other correspondences and recommendations	449
6	Visa recommendations for government nominations	385
<b>C</b>	<b><i>Attestation of Documents</i></b>	
1	Number of documents attested	1,84,164
2	Number of service recipient	1,54,207
3	Revenue Collected at the Department of Consular Services (in NRs.)	3,05,37,500/-
<b>D</b>	<b><i>Non-Residential Nepali Cards</i></b>	
1	Issuance of NRN Cards	37

**Chief Patron: Dr. Arzu Rana Deuba,**  
Minister for Foreign Affairs

**Patron: Mr. Amrit Bahadur Rai,**  
Foreign Secretary

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