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Modi bats for 2-state solution to iron out Israel-Palestine issue

Kallol Bhattacharjee
Saurabh Trivedi

NEW DELHI

Highlighting the role of dialogue and diplomacy in the “period of global turbulence”, Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday reiterated the importance of the two-state solution to end the Israel-Palestine conflict.

“In this period of global turbulence, India believes that the role of dialogue and diplomacy has become more important than ever before. On the issue of Palestine, we continue to support a two-state solution and the pursuit of lasting peace,” Mr. Modi said in Jakarta, Indonesia, the first leg of his three-nation tour. Mr. Modi also focused on commonalities between India and Indonesia in dealing with globally-important issues and said that the two countries are going to deepen cooperation on such areas.

A joint statement issued at the end of the official dialogue between Mr. Mo-



Prime Minister Narendra Modi with Indonesian President Subianto on Tuesday. PTI

di and Indonesia’s President Prabowo Subianto said the leaders expressed “deep concern” over the war in West Asia and “its global effects”.

Mr. Modi and Mr. Subianto also presided over the signing of 14 agreements and memoranda of understanding (MoUs), including ones that will allow India to deliver the BrahMos supersonic cruise missile system and Astra Mk-1 beyond-visual-range air-to-air missiles to Indonesia.

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PM announces IIM-B campus in Indonesia

The Hindu Bureau

NEW DELHI

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday announced that the Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore (IIM-B) would establish its first campus in Indonesia, describing the initiative as a major step towards strengthening educational ties and benefiting students across the ASEAN region.

The announcement was made during Mr. Modi's visit to Indonesia in a joint press statement with Indonesian President Prabowo

Subianto. The proposed campus will be set up at the Singhasari Special Economic Zone (SEZ) in Malang and is aimed at advancing the internationalisation of India's higher education ecosystem.

The campus will offer programmes focused on areas such as global supply chains, digital transformation, artificial intelligence, climate and sustainability, and healthcare management. The curriculum will also include interactions with industry leaders and eminent academicians.

Between India and East Asia, the navigation-time and distance can be greatly reduced by which of the following ?

1. Deepening the Malacca straits between Malaysia and Indonesia.
2. Opening a new canal across the Kra isthmus between the Gulf of Siam and Andaman Sea.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

79. Consider the following pairs :

	Country		Resource-rich in
I.	Botswana	:	Diamond
II.	Chile	:	Lithium
III.	Indonesia	:	Nickel

In how many of the above rows is the given information correctly matched?

- (a) Only one
- (b) Only two
- (c) All the three
- (d) None

INDIA-INDONESIA RELATIONS

STRENGTHENING THE COMPREHENSIVE STRATEGIC PARTNERSHIP

1 CONTEXT

- PM Narendra Modi paid a State Visit to Indonesia and was conferred the **Bintang Adipurna**, Indonesia's highest civilian honour.
- Both countries elevated cooperation through **14 agreements/MoUs** in defence, maritime security, critical minerals, connectivity, education, AI, digital economy and culture.
- Reaffirmed commitment to ASEAN Centrality, a Free, Open, Inclusive and Rules-based Indo-Pacific and support for a **Two-State Solution** for Israel-Palestine.

3 KEY OUTCOMES OF PM MODI'S VISIT

- Defence Cooperation**
 - Agreement facilitating export of **BrahMos** supersonic cruise missile system.
 - Cooperation on **Astra Mk-1** missile.
 - Enhanced defence industry collaboration, military training and joint exercises.
- Maritime Cooperation**
 - Cooperation on **Sabang Port** development.
 - Coast Guard cooperation and MDA.
 - Collaboration under **Blue Economy** and maritime logistics.
- Critical Minerals & Energy**
 - Partnership on **nickel**, rare earths and other critical minerals.
 - Building resilient and diversified supply chains for clean-energy transition.
- Economy, Technology & Innovation**
 - Collaboration in **AI**, digital technologies, semiconductors, fintech and innovation.
 - Promoting investment, manufacturing and start-up linkages.
- Education & Culture**
 - IIM Bangalore to establish its first overseas campus in Indonesia.
 - Joint conservation of Prambanan Temple.
- Regional & Global Issues**
 - Reaffirmed support for ASEAN-led regional architecture and international law.
 - Supported negotiated **Two-State Solution** for Israel-Palestine issue.

2 WHY INDONESIA MATTERS FOR INDIA?

- Geostrategic Location**
Situated at the crossroads of the Indian and Pacific Oceans; controls the Strait of Malacca, a critical global SLOC for India's trade and energy imports.
- ASEAN Pivot**
Largest economy and population in ASEAN; central to India's Act East Policy and regional integration.
- Economic Importance**
Bilateral trade >US\$30 billion; scope in investment, manufacturing, infrastructure, pharma, digital economy and MSMEs.
- Critical Mineral Security**
World's leading producer of nickel; rich in tin, bauxite and copper—vital for EV batteries, electronics and clean-energy transition.
- Maritime & Security Partner**
Cooperation in MDA, anti-piracy, HADR, counter-terrorism, illegal fishing and Coast Guard collaboration.
- Civilisational & People-to-People Ties**
Shared Hindu-Buddhist heritage; strong cultural affinity and growing academic, tourism and people linkages.



4 STRATEGIC SIGNIFICANCE FOR INDIA

- Strengthens India's position in the Indo-Pacific and supports a rules-based maritime order.
- Enhances defence diplomacy and expands scope for defence exports under **Atmanirbhar Bharat**.
- Secures critical maritime SLOCs and energy routes.
- Diversifies and secures critical mineral supply chains.
- Deepens engagement with ASEAN and the Global South.
- Advances **MAHASAGAR** vision and India's role as a net security provider in the Indian Ocean Region.

5 CHALLENGES

- China's growing strategic and economic footprint in Southeast Asia.
- Bilateral trade and investments remain below potential.
- Slow implementation of connectivity and infrastructure projects.
- ASEAN's balancing approach among major powers.
- Need for greater private-sector participation and stronger people connect.

6 WAY FORWARD

- Fast-track defence co-development, co-production and technology transfer.
- Conclude a balanced Comprehensive Economic Partnership Agreement (CEPA).
- Institutionalise maritime logistics linkages between Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Sabang Port.
- Build resilient supply chains in critical minerals, semiconductors and green technologies.
- Expand cooperation in AI, Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI), cybersecurity and fintech.
- Strengthen Blue Economy, climate resilience, disaster management and sustainable fisheries.

7 UPSC VALUE ADDITION

IMPORTANT FACTS

- Comprehensive Strategic Partnership: 2018
- Highest Civilian Honour: Bintang Adipurna
- Strategic Port: Sabang (Acheh Province)
- Strategic Waterway: Strait of Malacca
- ASEAN's Largest Economy and Population

KEY FRAMEWORKS & POLICIES

- Act East Policy
- MAHASAGAR
- Indo-Pacific Oceans Initiative (IPOI)
- ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific (AOIP)
- Neighbourhood First Policy

SHARED PLATFORMS

- G20
- East Asia Summit (EAS)
- Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA)
- Indian Ocean Naval Symposium (IONS)
- ASEAN-led mechanisms

BILATERAL SNAPSHOT

- Trade (FY 2024-25): ~US\$30+ billion
- India's exports: Petroleum products, pharmaceuticals, iron & steel, machinery, electronic components
- India's imports: Palm oil, coal, nickel, electronics components
- Indian investments in Indonesia: ~US\$2 billion (approx.)

GS-II MAINS LINKAGE

- India and its Neighbourhood
- Bilateral, Regional & Global Groupings
- India-ASEAN Relations
- India's Foreign Policy and International Relations
- Maritime Security & Indo-Pacific

“India and Indonesia—two ancient civilisations, two vibrant democracies, and two maritime nations—are working together for peace, prosperity and a rules-based Indo-Pacific.”



Grand ambitions

India's cooperative sector can serve as a worker-centric model of development

Hypercompetitive business models that dominate the economic lives of people have undesirable social consequences. The cooperative model offers an alternative, albeit with its own imperfections. India's Ministry of Cooperation, which completed five years on July 6, is a bold experiment in harnessing the potential of this approach. Traditionally confined largely to agriculture, cooperatives now have the opportunity and a requirement to expand into other sectors, particularly services. Cooperatives, by their very character, are relatively small-scale and fragmented; organising them, and connecting them to the broader economy that disproportionately rewards hyper-scalers is a balancing intervention – an economic, political and social imperative. The Ministry aims to transform the cooperative landscape by bringing policy coherence across agriculture, dairy, fisheries, banking, housing, consumer cooperatives, and exports. This requires collaboration with States and national federations, capacity building, wise use of digital technology, and market linkages. Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are the foundation of rural cooperatives. Through a reformed legal framework, they have been empowered to undertake over 25 business activities, transforming them into multifaceted institutions delivering many economic services in rural India.

The Ministry has facilitated new national-level multi-State cooperative societies, expanding market access for members and strengthening cooperative value chains from production to global markets. Cooperative enterprises are being encouraged to grow and compete, and a National Cooperation Policy is in the making. But there are challenges amid the opportunities. Corruption and inefficiency eroded the potential of India's cooperative sector, and the fear of local communities and States losing control of cooperatives to a national-level mechanism needs to be assuaged. The task is in finding the sweet spot of consolidation and decentralisation; localisation and nationalisation; technology and human labour, for boosting the sector. Union Home Minister Amit Shah, who holds the portfolio, is pushing the cooperative sector to expand into production and marketing, beyond agricultural credit and input facilitation, which could help mitigate the sector's endemic crisis. A well-coordinated, yet federated, cooperative sector can offset the social, environmental and political costs of global capitalism, which is the default model of the economy. Government and business leaders worldwide are viewing cooperatives with renewed interest, as the pitfalls of hypercapitalism become pronounced. India can develop its cooperative sector as a global model.

COOPERATIVES IN INDIA: TOWARDS INCLUSIVE AND WORKER-CENTRIC DEVELOPMENT

“Sahkar se Samridhhi” – People First, Prosperity for All

1. CONTEXT

The **Ministry of Cooperation** came into existence on **6 July 2021** to give a separate administrative, legal and policy framework for promotion and development of cooperatives in India. After completing five years, the focus is on transforming cooperatives into **democratic, professional and diversified** enterprises that ensure **inclusive growth, rural prosperity and social justice**.



Ministry of Cooperation
Government of India

2. COOPERATIVE SOCIETY: MEANING & CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS



Meaning

A voluntary, autonomous and democratically managed association of persons formed to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs through a jointly owned and member-controlled enterprise based on the principle of “One Member, One Vote”.



Constitutional Basis

- **Article 19(1)(c):** Right to form cooperative societies.
- **Article 43B (DPSP):** State shall promote voluntary formation, autonomous functioning, democratic control and professional management of cooperatives.



Link with Fundamental Duties

- **Article 51A(e):** Promote harmony and brotherhood.
- **Article 51A(j):** Strive for excellence in all spheres.

Cooperatives reflect values of participation, mutual help, collective responsibility and social justice.

3. WHY COOPERATIVES MATTER?



- Promote **inclusive and equitable** economic growth.



- Strengthen **bargaining power** of small farmers, artisans, workers and consumers.



- Improve **access to credit**, inputs, technology, storage, processing and marketing.



- Generate **employment** and empower women and youth at the grassroots.



- Build resilient local **value chains** and reduce regional disparities.



- Support **Atmanirbhar Bharat**, food security, financial inclusion and sustainable livelihoods.

4. FIVE YEARS OF MINISTRY OF COOPERATION: KEY INITIATIVES & ACHIEVEMENTS



- i. **Establishment of Ministry:** Came into existence on **6 July 2021** with the vision “Sahkar se Samridhhi”.



- ii. **National Cooperation Policy, 2025:** Launched on **24 July 2025**; replaces National Policy on Cooperatives, 2002. Aims to make cooperatives key drivers of **Viksit Bharat 2047** through reforms, digitalisation, professional management and expansion into new sectors.



- iii. **PACS Computerisation:** Initially approved for **63,000** Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), expanded to **79,630 PACS**. Implemented through a common Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) platform integrated with NABARD, State Cooperative Banks and DCCBs to ensure transparency, online accounting, audit and citizen services.



- iv. **PACS as Multi-purpose Centres:** PACS are being diversified into **25+ business activities** such as storage, dairy, fisheries, agri-inputs, custom hiring, LPG distribution, Common Service Centres (CSCs), fair price shops, retail and other rural services.



- v. **World's Largest Grain Storage Plan in Cooperative Sector:** Approved in **May 2023** to create decentralised storage infrastructure, godowns and processing units through PACS across the country.



- vi. **New National Cooperative Institutions:** National Cooperative Exports Limited (**NCEL**), National Cooperative Organics Limited (**NCOL**) and Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti Limited (**BBSSL**) to promote exports, organic production and quality seeds.



- vii. **Legislative Reform:** Multi-State Cooperative Societies (Amendment) Act, 2023 aims to improve governance, transparency, accountability, elections and dispute resolution in multi-State cooperatives.



6. WAY FORWARD

- Implement National Cooperation Policy, 2025 with autonomy, transparency and professional management.
- Complete digital transformation of PACS and integrate them with credit, storage, marketing and Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI).
- Expand cooperatives into logistics, renewable energy, tourism, healthcare, insurance, transport, e-commerce and other service sectors.
- Promote women-led, youth-led and worker cooperatives; strengthen producer cooperatives and FPOs.
- Strengthen market linkages, branding, exports and global competitiveness.
- Ensure local control, national market access and professional governance.

7. IMPORTANT COOPERATIVE EXAMPLES

 Amul AMUL (Dairy Cooperatives)	 IFFCO Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO) (Fertilisers)	 NAFED National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (NAFED) (Agricultural Marketing)
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8. GS LINKAGES (SYLLABUS)

GS-II <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governance • Government Policies • Cooperative Federalism • Constitutional Provisions 	GS-III <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusive Growth • Agriculture & Rural Economy • Food Security • Employment Generation
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KEY TAKEAWAY:

A reformed, technology-enabled and professionally managed cooperative movement can become India's third pillar of development alongside the public and private sectors—ensuring inclusive growth, social justice, rural prosperity and the vision of Viksit Bharat 2047.



SAHKAR SE SAMRIDHDI,
SAHKAR SE SASHTIKARAN

Four States reach a pact on Narmada project payments

Union Home Minister says that issue of pending payments had remained unresolved for a long time and it had been settled amicably; water and electricity have reached all four States, he adds

The Hindu Bureau
NEW DELHI

The States of Maharashtra, Gujarat, Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh reached an agreement on Tuesday on the settlement of pending payment issues among the Narmada Award beneficiary States.

The agreement was signed in the presence of Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Minister of Jal Shakti C.R. Patil. Chief Ministers Devendra Fadnavis (Maharashtra), Bhupendra Patel (Gujarat), Bhajan Lal Sharma (Rajasthan) and Mohan Yadav (Madhya Pradesh) signed the agreement, which relates to the cost-sharing arrangements for the construction of the Sardar Sarovar Project.

Under the agreement, the payments to be made towards the final settlement of pending dues have been resolved through a one-time settlement. Mr. Shah said that the issue of pending payments under the Narmada Award had remained unresolved among the four States for a long time, and that it had been resolved



Common platform: Union Home Minister Amit Shah and Union Minister of Jal Shakti C. R. Patil with the Chief Ministers of Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Rajasthan. PTI

Free Whatsapp Channel <https://whatsapp.com/channel/0029Van2VRb6RGJOKH6oBd0F>

amicably on Tuesday. He said that with the completion of the dam, water and electricity have reached every part of the four States.

He added that while the benefits accruing to Rajasthan may appear modest at first glance, the areas that have received Narmada waters have witnessed a transformation in both the value of the land and the fortunes of the farmers.

The Union Home Minister said that let it be Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Haryana or

Maharashtra, the water ultimately served the people of the country, especially the farmers. Regardless of which part of the country the water is utilised in, the ultimate beneficiary will be an Indian, he said.

Water-sharing issues

Recently, significant progress has also been made in resolving long-standing water-sharing issues between States, such as those concerning the Kishau Dam project in Himachal Pradesh and the water dispute between Rajasthan

and Haryana, officials said. On June 29, Rajasthan and Haryana signed an agreement for the construction and implementation of the Yamuna Water Project, resolving a nearly three-decade-old issue.

Additionally, on June 16, Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Delhi, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, and Rajasthan agreed to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the implementation of the Kishau Multipurpose Project to rejuvenate the Yamuna river.

(With PTI inputs)



1. Context

- i. Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Rajasthan signed a one-time settlement agreement to resolve long-pending cost-sharing liabilities related to the Sardar Sarovar Dam Project on the Narmada River.
- ii. The agreement settles pending construction, operation and maintenance (O&M) dues under the Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT) Award, 1979, which allocated Narmada waters, fixed the project's cost-sharing framework and laid down implementation mechanisms for the four beneficiary States.

2. Prelims Corner

- i. **Narmada River**: Origin: Amarkantak Plateau (Madhya Pradesh) | **Length**: 1,312 km | **Mouth**: Gulf of Khambhat (Arabian Sea) | Largest west-flowing peninsular river | Flows through a rift valley between the Vindhya and Satpura ranges.
- ii. **Sardar Sarovar Dam Project**: **Location**: Kevadia (Gujarat) | **River**: Narmada | **Beneficiary States**: Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra & Rajasthan | **Purpose**: Irrigation • Drinking Water • Hydropower • Flood Control.
- iii. **Institutions**: **Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal (NWDT)**: Constituted 1969, Award 1979 | **Narmada Control Authority (NCA)**: Established 1980.

1 BRICS ANTI-DRUGS MEETING 2026

BRICS INDIA 2026



- Hosted by: India
- Held in: Guwahati, Assam
- Organised by: Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB)
- Nodal Ministry: Ministry of Home Affairs
- Participation: BRICS member countries

AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

- Tackle drug trafficking & abuse
- Focus on synthetic drugs, NPS & darknet trafficking
- Strengthen intelligence sharing & operational coordination
- Build capacity & institutional cooperation among member states



2 INS MAHENDRAGIRI (F38)

Strengthening India's Naval Capability



- 6th advanced indigenous stealth frigate of Project 17A (Nilgiri-class)
- Built by: Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- Powered by: Combined Diesel or Gas (CODLOG) propulsion system
- Significance: Over 75% indigenous content, exemplifies 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat' initiative

Enhances maritime security, blue water capability and supports multi-role naval operations.

3 ZERO COAL LEAKAGE PLAN



- Objective: Eliminate illegal coal mining, coal theft & unauthorized transportation
- Primary Target: Dhanbad, Jharkhand
- Under: Mines and Minerals (Development and Regulation) Act, 1957

PROVISIONS

- Nationwide crackdown on illegal coal mining and coal leakage.
- Deployment of CISF and QRTs to secure coal mines.
- Use of Integrated Command & Control Centres.
- Verification of e-way bills and stronger enforcement.

4 SEA BUCKTHORN A Promising Superberry



Recently, Sea buckthorn received GI tag in Himachal Pradesh.

- Scientific name: *Hippophae rhamnoides*
- Common names: 'Himalayan Berry', 'Wonder Plant', 'Ladakh Gold', 'Golden Bush', or 'Gold Mine' of cold deserts.
- Indian names: Leh Berry (Ladakh), Chharma (Himachal Pradesh), Ames (Uttarakhand), and Brahmaphal (in Hindi).
- Habitat: High-altitude cold deserts of the Himalayan region, such as Ladakh & Spiti.

FEATURES	RICH IN	USES
Bright orange colour in appearance.	Vitamins C, A, E, K, and B-complex, Omega fatty acids.	Oil for skincare. Juices, Teas and Powders for consumption.

HEALTH BENEFITS

- Skin Regeneration
- Cardiovascular Support
- Eye care etc.

5 GI REGISTRATIONS – STATISTICS

- Over 125 GI registrations recorded during April 2025 – March 2026.
- Highest registrations: Madhya Pradesh (26), followed by West Bengal (24).

GI TAG STATISTICS IN INDIA

Total GI Registrations	Handicrafts	Agricultural Products
822	53%	31%

STATEWISE GI TAGS (Top 3)

1	Uttar Pradesh	74
2	Tamil Nadu	69
3	West Bengal	24

ABOUT GI TAG

Sign for products of specific geographical origin with unique qualities.

- Cannot be transferred, licensed or pledged.
- Valid for 10 years (renewable).

GOVERNANCE

Governed by: GI Act, 1999

Administered by: GI Registry, Chennai

Protected under: TRIPS Agreement of WTO

KEY FACT BOX

MMDR Act, 1957
Governs regulation and development of mines & minerals.

GI Act, 1999
Provides legal protection to Geographical Indications.

TRIPS Agreement, WTO Agreement 1995
Ensures protection of IPR including GI.

Sea Buckthorn
Hippophae rhamnoides

INS Mahendragiri
6th ship of Project 17A Stealth Frigate

BRICS Anti-Drugs Meeting 2026
Hosted in Guwahati by NCB

International Day of Cooperatives
4 July

World Zoonoses Day
6 July

World Rural Development Day
6 July



UnderStand UPSC
What we UnderStand, We Conquer

