

## Modi to attend SCO summit in China Beijing's top diplomat hails 'positive trend' in ties with India

AFP, New Delhi

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi will visit China later in August, his security chief said yesterday during talks with Beijing's foreign minister in New Delhi.

Modi will attend the Shanghai Cooperation Organization summit opening on August 31 in Tianjin, his first visit to China since 2018, Ajit Doval said, in public comments at the start of a meeting with Beijing's Foreign Minister Wang Yi.

"Our prime minister will be visiting for the SCO summit," Doval said, speaking of "new energy" in diplomatic ties.

China "attaches great importance" to Modi's visit to the SCO summit, Wang said, according to an official translator.

"History and reality proves once again that a healthy and stable China-India relationship serves the fundamental and long term interests of both of our



Palestinians salvage items from the rubble of homes destroyed in Israeli strikes on the southern al-Zeitoun neighbourhood in Gaza City yesterday. Gaza's civil defence agency said 31 people were killed by Israeli strikes and fire across the territory yesterday.

PHOTO: AFP



countries," Wang added.

During talks on Monday with Subrahmanyam Jaishankar, India's foreign minister, Wang said the two countries should "view each other as partners and opportunities, rather than adversaries or threats".

He pointed to the resumption of "dialogue at all levels" and "maintenance of peace and tranquility in border areas" as evidence bilateral ties were on a "positive trend of returning to the main path of cooperation".

The world's two most populous nations are intense rivals competing for influence across South Asia, and fought a deadly border clash in 2020.

A record 383 aid workers were killed in 2024, the United Nations said Tuesday, branding the figures and lack of accountability a "shameful indictment" of international apathy -- and warning this year's toll was equally disturbing.

The 2024 figure was up 31 percent on the year before, the UN said on World Humanitarian Day, "driven by the relentless conflicts in Gaza, where 181 humanitarian workers were killed, and in Sudan, where 60 lost their lives".

It said state actors were the most common perpetrators of the killings in 2024.

The UN said most of those killed were local staff attacked in the line of duty or in their homes.

Besides those killed, 308 aid workers were wounded, 125 kidnapped and 45 detained last year.

"Humanitarians must be respected and protected. They can never be targeted," UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres said in a statement.

"This rule is non-negotiable and is binding on all parties to conflict, always and everywhere. Yet red lines are crossed with impunity."

He called for perpetrators to be brought to justice.

Provisional figures from the Aid Worker Security Database show that 265 aid workers have been killed this year, up to August 14.

"Attacks on this scale, with zero accountability, are a shameful indictment of international inaction and

apathy," said UN aid chief Tom Fletcher, head of its humanitarian agency OCHA. "Violence against aid workers must end."

The International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement said 18 of their staff and volunteers had been killed so far this year "while carrying out their life-saving work".

Meanwhile the WHO said 1,121 health workers and patients had been killed and hundreds injured in attacks across 16 territories -- though most deaths were in Sudan.

OCHA spokesman Jens Laerke said "very, very few" people had "ever been brought to justice for any of these attacks", with the UN human rights office urging countries bring perpetrators to account using the principle of universal jurisdiction.

## 5 MoUs to be signed during Pak ministers' visits

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trade, culture, media, training and travel, said a diplomatic source in Islamabad.

The sources confirmed that the MoUs will be on visa free entry for holders of diplomatic and official passports, establishing a joint working group on trade and commerce, cooperation between Bangladesh Sangbad Sangshtha and Associated Press of Pakistan, and cooperation between Bangladesh's Foreign Service Academy and the Foreign Service Academy of Pakistan.

The MoUs will be signed at a delegation level meeting on August 24 at the state guesthouse Padma. On that day, Bangladesh Foreign Adviser Touhid Hossain and Dar will lead

the delegation level meeting after a one-to-one meeting.

Khan will also be present. Besides, he will hold a separate meeting with Commerce Adviser Sheikh Bashiruddin.

They are also likely to call on Chief Adviser Muhammad Yunus, foreign ministry officials said.

Khan will meet with Bangladesh's trade bodies and Trading Corporation of Bangladesh officials in Dhaka and Chattogram. He will also visit the Chattogram Port and a steel re-rolling factory in Chattogram.

In Dhaka, Dar and Khan will attend a reception to be hosted by the Pakistan High Commission on August 23.

The Dhaka Islamabad relationship soured after Pakistan condemned the

execution of Bangladesh Jamaat e Islami leader Abdul Quader Mollah in 2013 for crimes against humanity committed during the 1971 Liberation War.

The renewed efforts to improve the relationship were taken after last year's political changeover.

Bilateral trade increased from both ends, reaching \$865 million in fiscal 2024-25. Bangladeshi's exports to Pakistan stood at \$78 million, a 20 percent increase from the previous year. Pakistan's exports increased by 28 percent.

Since August last year, Bangladesh and Pakistan began direct shipping, eased visa and trade regimes and are set to start direct flights. For direct flights between Dhaka and Karachi, foreign ministry officials said.

Pakistani airline Fly Jinnah has already secured approval from Bangladesh and Air Sial has applied for the approval. Biman Bangladesh is also planning to seek approval from Pakistan authorities, officials said.

A Pakistani business delegation, led by President of the Federation of Pakistan Chamber of Commerce and Industry Atif Ikrar Sheikh, visited Dhaka in January this year after 12 years.

The two countries are likely to hold the Joint Economic Commission meeting in September or October, 20 years after it was last held. Pakistan Finance Minister Muhammad Aurangzeb may visit Bangladesh then, foreign ministry officials said.

Rescuers and residents resumed searching yesterday for survivors as the death toll from five days of torrential rain rose to almost 400, with authorities warning monsoon downpours would continue until the weekend.

Torrential rains across Pakistan's north have caused flooding and landslides that have swept away entire villages, leaving many residents trapped in the rubble and scores missing.

The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) said 356 people were killed in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa, a mountainous province in Pakistan's northwest bordering Afghanistan, since Thursday evening. Dozens more were killed in surrounding regions, taking the toll in the past five days to almost 400. Rescuers dug through mud and stone in hard hit Dalori village in Khyber Pakhtunkhwa in the hope of finding survivors and the bodies of people missing.

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### Invitation For e-Tender

For financial year 2025-2026, e-Tender is invited in the National e-GP system portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) for the procurement of :

SL	Tender ID No & Reference No	Description of goods	Last selling Date & Time	Closing/ Opening Date & Time
1.	1141544, RABHQ/CPS/2025-2026/3258105/1094 Date: 19/08/2025	Repair & Maintenance of Vehicle Tracking System and Other Related Software Services	04-Sep-2025 11:30	04-Sep-2025 12:00
2.	1141669, RABHQ/CPS/2025-2026/3258105/1095 Date: 19/08/2025	Repair & Maintenance of Photocopy Machine, Mobile Phone Sets, Other Equipment and Accessories	04-Sep-2025 11:30	04-Sep-2025 12:00

This is an online tender, where only e-tender will be accepted in the national e-GP portal and no offline/hard copies will be accepted.

To submit e-tender, registration in the national e-GP system portal ([www.eprocure.gov.bd](http://www.eprocure.gov.bd)) is required.

The fees for downloading the e-Tender documents from the national e-GP system portal have to be deposited online through any registered bank branches.

Further information and guidelines are available in the national e-GP system portal and from e-GP helpdesk ([helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd](mailto:helpdesk@eprocure.gov.bd))

Tenderer having clarity requirements are requested to contact at 01777-720118 (Senior Assistant Director, Central Procurement Section).

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GD-1827

## Macron calls Putin 'ogre at our gates'

AFP, Paris

French President Emmanuel Macron yesterday warned European allies not to trust Russian President Vladimir Putin, whom he called "an ogre at our gates".

Macron's remarks came as Russian and Ukrainian presidents Vladimir Putin and Volodymyr Zelensky looked set for a peace summit after fast-moving talks Monday between Donald Trump and European leaders that focused on the key issue of long term security guarantees for Kyiv.

"Putin has rarely honoured his commitments," Macron told the LCI broadcaster. "He has constantly been a force for destabilisation. He has sought to redraw borders to increase his power."

Macron said he did not believe that Russia would "return to peace".

Putin, "including for his own survival, needs to keep eating", Macron said. "That means he is a predator, an ogre at our gates."

This did not mean that France would "come under attack tomorrow", Macron said, "but of course this is a threat to Europe. Let's not be naive."

## Pakistan floods toll nears 400

AFP, Bar Darol

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চট্টগ্রাম বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়

চট্টগ্রাম

স্মারক নং-এ-১(৮)/১২১৮(১৫০)/সাঃ

তারিখঃ ১৯-০৮-২০২৫

### নিয়োগ বিজ্ঞপ্তি

এ বিশ্ববিদ্যালয়ের বিভিন্ন বিভাগ/ইনসিটিউট/অন্যান্য/মসজিদ/হল/সংস্থার নিম্নোক্ত শনায়েসমূহ হায়ারী ভিত্তিতে প্রদত্ত করা যাচ্ছে:			
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		বাস্তুলর ১টি	৮ ম শ্রেণি
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		বার্তাবাহক- ১টি	এস, এস.সি.
৫	দেশবন্ধু বেগম খালেদা জিয়া হল	প্রহরী- ১টি	৮ ম শ্রেণি
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৭	মাস্টারস সুর্যসেন হল	বাস্তুলর- ১টি	৮ ম শ্রেণি
৮	সমাজ বিজ্ঞান অন্যান্য	আফিস পিয়ান ১টি	এস, এস.সি.
৯	শিরাপতা দলতর	প্রহরী- ১টি	৮ ম শ্রেণি
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