

Ministry of External Affairs

Overview of Major Achievements during the month of April 2020

1. During the month of April, we ramped up our efforts in medical diplomacy in keeping with our global reputation of being the 'Pharmacy of the World'. This consisted of not only supplying pharmaceutical drugs like HCQ and paracetamol to our friends and those countries in need, but also included providing laboratory and hospital equipment in addition to fulfilling requests for deployment of Rapid Response Teams (RRT) comprising doctors, nurses and paramedics (from the Armed Forces). So far, 85 nations have received our pharmaceutical assistance. About 68,105 citizens from 78 countries have also been evacuated from India till 30 April.
2. On 01 April, India and China celebrated the 70th anniversary of establishment of diplomatic relations. President Shri Ram Nath Kovind and PM Shri Narendra Modi exchanged messages of felicitations with Chinese President Xi Jinping and Premier Li Keqiang on the occasion. An air bridge between the two countries delivered 85 tonnes of relief material to China via 5 Air India flights, which returned with 109 tonnes of material.

Diplomatic Engagements and other Interactions:

3. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi discussed the prevailing global situation regarding the COVID-19 pandemic with 27 Heads of State/Government representatives from countries across the world.
4. External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar connected with 46 of his counterparts from various countries across the world and discussed cooperation as well as Indian assistance in combating the COVID-19 pandemic.
5. Prime Minister spoke with President Donald Trump on 4 April on a wide range of bilateral and international issues of mutual interest, including the ongoing

COVID-19 pandemic and its impact on the global well-being and economy. Among other things, President Trump thanked PM for allowing export of HCQ tablets.

6. EAM held a telephone conversation with the US Secretary of State, Mike Pompeo on 23 April. EAM also spoke with U.S Special Representative for Afghanistan Reconciliation, Zalmay Khalilzad who briefed him on recent developments in Afghanistan. US Secretary of State Mike Pompeo in press remarks on 29 April said that they are working with India and other countries, including Australia and Japan to share information and best practices as they begin to move the global economy forward.

7. EAM, Dr. S. Jaishankar represented India at the BRICS Minister of Foreign Affairs videoconference convened by Russia on 28 April.