

**High Commission of India
Singapore
Press Release**

**Visit of External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar to Singapore
6 to 10 September 2019**

External Affairs Minister (EAM) Dr S Jaishankar made an official visit to Singapore from 6 to 10 September 2019. This was EAM's first bilateral visit to Singapore after assuming charge as External Affairs Minister.

2. During the visit, External Affairs Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr Vivian Balakrishnan co-chaired the 6th India - Singapore Joint Ministerial Committee (JMC) and reviewed the progress in bilateral cooperation and particularly in multilateral and regional forums under the India- Singapore Strategic Partnership.

3. External Affairs Minister called on Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong, Deputy Prime Minister and Finance Minister Heng Swee Keat, Emeritus Senior Minister Goh Chok Tong, and met Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security Mr. Teo Chee Hean, Minister for Defence Dr. Ng Eng Hen, Minister for Home Affairs and Law Mr. Shanmugam, and Minister for Trade & Industry Mr. Chan Chun Sing.

4. EAM's wide ranging meetings in Singapore reflects strong and comprehensive strategic partnership between India and Singapore. Both sides committed to further strengthen their cooperation in trade and investment arising out of India's rapid economic growth and regional economic changes. They welcomed, in particular, the pioneering initiatives taken by the two sides in the emerging opportunities in the digital economy, which was creating new opportunities of enterprise and employment for the youth of the two countries. There was convergence of views on regional and global developments. EAM stressed that Singapore was a bridge and gateway for India to Southeast and beyond. Singapore side reiterated its desire for India to play a larger role in the region. They agreed that the evolving regional environment called for deeper strategic partnership between India and Singapore in the cause of regional peace and stability.

5. EAM co-chaired the inaugural Ministerial Plenary of “India-Singapore: The Next Phase- Business and Innovation Summit” on 9 September 2019 with Singapore’s Minister for Foreign Affairs Dr. Vivian Balakrishnan. EAM and Foreign Minister of Singapore also inaugurated “InSprenneur 3:0 The Start Up and Innovation Exhibition”.

6. EAM also addressed a large gathering of 1600 people over dinner on the conception of new India under Prime minister Mr. Narendra Modi led Government , transformation taking place in country and India’s prolonged and proactive global engagement. Senior Minister and Coordinating Minister for National Security Mr. Teo Chee Hean was Guest of Honour.

7. The Business and Innovation Summit organized by the High Commission of India in Singapore provided a platform for government, business and technology sectors on both sides to discuss the roadmap for the next phase of India-Singapore strategic and economic partnership in the second term of Prime Minister Narendra Modi led government. It had two Ministerial plenaries, 25 sessions with 90 speakers and a start-up exhibition with over 95 start-ups and incubators including 65 from India.

8. During the Summit, Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Ministry of Housing & Urban Developing; Ministry of Civil Aviation and Minister of State for Ministry of Commerce and Industry Mr. Hardeep Singh Puri gave a detailed account of India’s economic achievements for the last five years and the government’s economic agenda for realizing the vision of becoming a USD 5 trillion economy in 2024. Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry & Ministry of Education of Singapore Mr. Chee Hong Tat also presented Singapore’s priorities and approach in its economic partnership with India. The four State Governments – Andhra, Odisha, Punjab and Uttarakhand participated in the Summit. The Summit has created a high level of appreciation of India’s economic achievements and its future agenda.

9. External Affairs Minister also gave several interviews to international print and television media.

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