

News from Democracies: India: June 29

June 29, 2023

1. June 30, 2023: Delhi: **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** will be the Chief Guest at the **Centenary Celebrations of University of Delhi**.



May 1, 1922: D.U. established at the Viceregal Lodge in the Cantonment

Reference: <https://centenary.du.ac.in/>

2. June 29, 2023: Delhi: The 5th meeting of the *India-Philippines Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation* took place in Delhi on Thursday.



June 29: 5th India-Philippines Joint Commission on Bilateral Cooperation

The agenda was: defense, maritime security, counter-terrorism and transnational crimes; economic ties, including in trade & investments; development cooperation; health & pharma; tourism; air services; agriculture; fintech; S&T and space cooperation.

Enrique A. Manalo, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs of the Philippines and **Dr. S. Jaishankar**, the Indian Minister of Foreign Affairs, noted the importance of greater people to people ties, specifically in tourism and education sectors.

3. June 29, 2023: Delhi: **Eastern Sri Lanka and Delhi: Senthil Thondaman**, the Governor of Eastern Province of Sri Lanka, and **Dr. S. Jaishankar**, the Indian Minister of Foreign Affairs discussed development partnership and explored possibilities for further cooperation.



***Senthil Thondaman**, the Governor of Eastern Province of Sri Lanka
with **Dr. S. Jaishankar**, the Indian Minister of Foreign Affairs*

4. June 28, 2023: Delhi: Indian Cabinet Approval for establishing **National Research Foundation** (NRF): NRF is designed as an apex body to provide high-level strategic direction of scientific research in the country as per recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP), at a total

estimated cost of Rs. 50,000 crore during five years (2023-28). The Science and Engineering Research Board (SERB), established by an act of Parliament in 2008, will be subsumed into NRF which has an expanded mandate and covers activities over and above the activities of SERB.

NRF will seed, grow and promote Research and Development (R&D) and foster a culture of research and innovation throughout India's universities, colleges, research institutions, and R&D laboratories.

On June 21, 2023, **Prime Minister Narendra Modi** had visited the office of National Science Foundation, located at Alexandria, Virginia, along with Dr. Jill Biden, the First Lady of USA. The PM had said that India and USA are 'inclusive' countries and can collaborate to become the engines for sustainable growth.

Note: Please see page 4 of "Indian PM in at Washington DC: Dinner at White House" of June 21, 2023 at <https://diqinews360.com/indian-pm-in-at-washington-dc-dinner-at-white-house/> for a few lines about the PM's visit to NSF of USA.



Narendra Modi and Dr Jill Biden at NSF of USA

5. June 28, 2023: Delhi: **CDRI:** The Indian Cabinet approved the ratification of the Headquarters Agreement between India and **Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI)**.

CDRI, an international partnership aimed at promoting the resilience of infrastructure systems in the face of natural disasters and climate change, was

launched by the Prime Minister of India, at the United Nations Climate Action Summit on September 23, 2019, at New York. The CDRI brings together governments, multilateral development banks, UN agencies, and other stakeholders.

On the 28th August, 2019, the Indian Cabinet had approved the setting up of CDRI along with its supporting Secretariat in New Delhi and also gave the approval for Government of India financial support of Rs. 480 crore to CDRI over a period of 5 years from 2019-20 to 2023-24.

Subsequently, on the 29th June, 2022, the Cabinet had approved recognition of CDRI as an International Organization and for signing of Headquarters Agreement (HQA) for granting CDRI exemptions, immunities and privileges as contemplated under Section-3 of the UN (P&I) Act, 1947. In pursuance of the Cabinet decision, on 22nd August, 2022 the HQA was signed between the Gol and CDRI.



References: <https://cdri.world/>, <https://tinyurl.com/ypank6j5>

The CDRI continues to expand its membership and partnerships to strengthen its global reach and impact. Some of the members are: India, the United Kingdom, Germany, Japan, the World Bank, the United Nations Development Programme and the Global Infrastructure Facility. Since its launch, thirty-one (31) Countries, six (06) International Organizations and two (02) private sector organizations have become members of CDRI.

The coalition will continue to facilitate knowledge sharing, capacity building, and financing mechanisms to enable countries to build resilient infrastructure systems that can withstand the growing challenges posed by climate change and natural disasters.