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The Highlights of President Obama's Visit to India

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Summary: President Obama and the First Lady traveled to India this week -- their first time visiting the South Asian nation since Prime Minister Narendra Modi was sworn in on May 26, 2014. America and India are true global partners -- both in strengthening economies and strong democracies. That is why the President is the first to visit India twice while in office.



President Barack Obama and Prime Minister Narendra Modi have tea in the garden gazebo at Hyderabad House in New Delhi, India. January 25, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

"Chalein saath saath; forward together we go."

--[India-U.S. Delhi Declaration of Friendship](#)

President Obama and the First Lady traveled to India this week -- their first time visiting the South Asian nation since Prime Minister Narendra Modi was sworn in on May 26, 2014. America and India are true global partners in the work of strengthening economies and strong democracies. That is why the President is the first to have visited India twice while in office.



President Barack Obama participates in a ceremonial welcome at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi, India. January 25, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

As Prime Minister Modi said, "This is a natural global partnership. It has become even more relevant in the digital age. It is needed even more in our world for far-reaching changes and widespread turmoil. The success of this partnership is important for our progress and for advancing peace, stability and prosperity around the world."

On Board with Kal Penn: "A Trip of Firsts"

Actor and former Obama administration official Kal Penn gives us a rundown on what brought President Obama to India this time around.

"Abide with Me": A State Dinner



President Barack Obama toasts Prime Minister Narendra Modi during a State Dinner hosted by President Pranab Mukherjee at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi, India. January 25, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

In his remarks at a reception with President Mukherjee, the President quoted a hymn that was dear to Mahatma Gandhi's heart:

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

"Here in the eventide, Indians and Americans, let us know, in the darkness or day, in good times or bad, whenever one of us looks to the other, we will surely say, abide with me," he said.

Motorcycles, Military Parades, and More: The 66th Republic of India Day Celebrations



President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama view the Republic Day Parade with President Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the Rajpath saluting base in New Delhi, India. January 26, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Lawrence Jackson)

The President and the Prime Minister of India welcomed President Obama as the chief guest at India's 66th Republic Day celebrations -- a day that honors when India's constitution officially went into effect. President Obama is the first U.S. president to attend this historic event.



President Barack Obama speaks with Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the Republic Day Parade at the Rajpath saluting base in New Delhi, India. January 26, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)



President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama view the Republic Day Parade with President Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the Rajpath saluting base in New Delhi, India. January 26, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

Creating Progress: Cooperating in the Fight Against Climate Change



President Barack Obama participates in a traditional greeting with President Pranab Mukherjee and Prime Minister Narendra Modi following a ceremonial welcome at Rashtrapati Bhawan in New Delhi, India. January 25, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)

The President and Prime Minister Modi pledged to enhance U.S.-Indian cooperation on our mutual climate and clean energy goals. From our highly successful U.S.-India Partnership to Advance Clean Energy (PACE) umbrella program to technical work on emerging technologies, the U.S. and India made important progress on combating climate change.

The agreements include:

- Enhancing bilateral climate change cooperation to achieve a successful and ambitious agreement in Paris this year.
- Cooperating on Hydrofluorocarbons to make concrete progress in the Montreal Protocol this year
- Expanding PACE-R, the U.S.-India Joint Clean Energy Research and Development Center, to extend funding for research on solar energy, energy efficiency, and advanced biofuels.
- Launching air quality cooperation to help urban residents reduce their exposure to harmful levels of air pollution.

See a full list of what the U.S. and India agreed on to combat climate change [here](#).

True Global Partners: Incentivizing Trade and Investment

Under President Obama, trade between the two countries has increased by about 60 percent to nearly \$100 billion a year -- a record high. But that's still hundreds of billions less than the trade we do with China. "We've got to do better," the President said, speaking at a U.S.-India Business Council Summit in New Delhi. So today, the President announced a series of additional steps that will generate more than \$4 billion in trade and investment with India while supporting thousands of jobs in both countries:

- The Export-Import Bank will commit up to \$1 billion in financing to support "Made-in-America" exports to India.
- OPIC will support lending to small and medium businesses across India that will result in more than \$1 billion in loans in underserved rural and urban markets.
- The U.S. Trade and Development Agency will aim to leverage nearly \$2 billion in investments in renewable energy in India.

Read the President's full remarks [here](#).



President Barack Obama and First Lady Michelle Obama wave to the crowd at the Rajpath saluting base following the Republic Day Parade in New Delhi, India, January 26, 2015. (Official White House Photo by Pete Souza)



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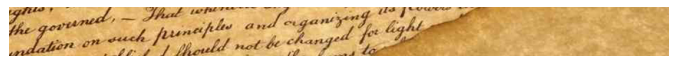
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