

# Daily Defence Current Affairs

## 07 July 2025

### 17th BRICS Summit

- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi participated in the 17th BRICS Summit, held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, on 6–7 July 2025, marking a significant step in India's diplomatic engagements with the BRICS nations – Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa. The summit witnessed wide-ranging and productive discussions on critical issues such as reform of global governance, peace and security, multilateral cooperation, development priorities, and Artificial Intelligence (AI).
- **Inaugural Session: Reforming Global Governance and Peace & Security**
- In his address during the inaugural session on "**Reform of Global Governance and Peace and Security**," Prime Minister Modi strongly reaffirmed India's commitment to enhancing the voice of the Global South. He highlighted the need for greater support for developing nations, particularly in accessing climate finance and advanced technology for sustainable development.
- He emphasized that 20th-century global institutions are not equipped to face 21st-century challenges, making urgent reforms necessary. Institutions like the UN Security Council, IMF, World Bank, and WTO must be restructured to reflect the contemporary global order. He appreciated the summit's strong language on the urgency of UNSC reforms in the 'Rio de Janeiro Declaration'.
- On the topic of peace and security, the Prime Minister condemned terrorism, calling it a grave threat to humanity. Referring to the Pahalgam terror attack in April 2025, he asserted that it was not just an assault on India but an attack on all of humanity. He urged for zero tolerance against terrorism and demanded strict action against those funding, promoting, or sheltering terrorists. He also thanked the BRICS leaders for strongly condemning the Pahalgam attack and called for unified efforts to combat the menace globally.

- The Prime Minister also expressed concern over the ongoing conflicts from West Asia to Europe, reiterating India's consistent stance advocating for dialogue and diplomacy as the only viable means to resolve disputes.
- **Session on Strengthening Multilateralism, Economy, and AI**
- In the session titled "Strengthening Multilateralism, Economic-Financial Affairs and Artificial Intelligence," which included BRICS partner and invited countries, Prime Minister Modi emphasized the significance of diversity and multipolarity as key strengths of the BRICS platform. He remarked that in today's unstable global environment, the relevance of BRICS is greater than ever, as it can contribute meaningfully to shaping a balanced and multipolar world.
- He proposed four key suggestions to enhance BRICS cooperation:
- BRICS New Development Bank should follow a demand-driven approach and prioritize long-term sustainability in funding projects.
- Establishment of a Science and Research Repository to benefit the Global South.
- Strengthening and securing the supply chains of critical minerals to build resilience.
- Promoting responsible use of Artificial Intelligence – ensuring AI governance while encouraging innovation in the sector.
- **Conclusion and the Rio de Janeiro Declaration**
- The summit concluded with the adoption of the 'Rio de Janeiro Declaration', encapsulating the collective vision of the BRICS nations to reform global institutions, combat terrorism, strengthen multilateralism, and promote inclusive and sustainable development, particularly through emerging technologies like AI.
- Prime Minister Modi thanked the President of Brazil for his warm hospitality and the successful organization of the summit, reaffirming India's active role and continued commitment to the BRICS agenda.

#### **Key Highlights:**

- PM Modi called for urgent UNSC reforms and stronger Global South representation.
- Condemned terrorism and demanded zero tolerance globally.

- Suggested a science repository, resilient mineral supply chains, and responsible AI innovation.
- Participated in two major sessions and endorsed the Rio de Janeiro Declaration.
- This summit marked yet another strong assertion of India's global leadership in diplomacy, peace, innovation, and development partnerships.



## RIO DE JANEIRO DECLARATION

### — India's Footprint at BRICS 2025 —

- India's aspirations to play a **greater role** in the **United Nations**, including its **Security Council**, supported
- Terrorist attack in Jammu & Kashmir on April 22, 2025 strongly condemned
- India's long-standing push for the **Comprehensive Convention on International Terrorism** in the UN framework **received backing**





## RIO DE JANEIRO DECLARATION

### — India's Footprint at BRICS 2025 —

- ➊ India's G20 Presidency saluted for bringing the African Union into the bloc, strengthening EMDEs'\* voice
- ➋ Launch of BRICS Startup Forum & BRICS Startup Knowledge Hub under India's leadership appreciated
- ➌ India's candidacy to host COP# 33 in 2028 welcomed
- ➍ India's BRICS Chairship in 2026 & its holding of 18<sup>th</sup> BRICS Summit supported

\*Emerging Market and Developing Economies | #Conference of the Parties

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## RIO DE JANEIRO DECLARATION

### — India's Footprint at BRICS 2025 —

- India's efforts in organising **Capacity Building Sessions** on **Digital Transformation** in BRICS appreciated

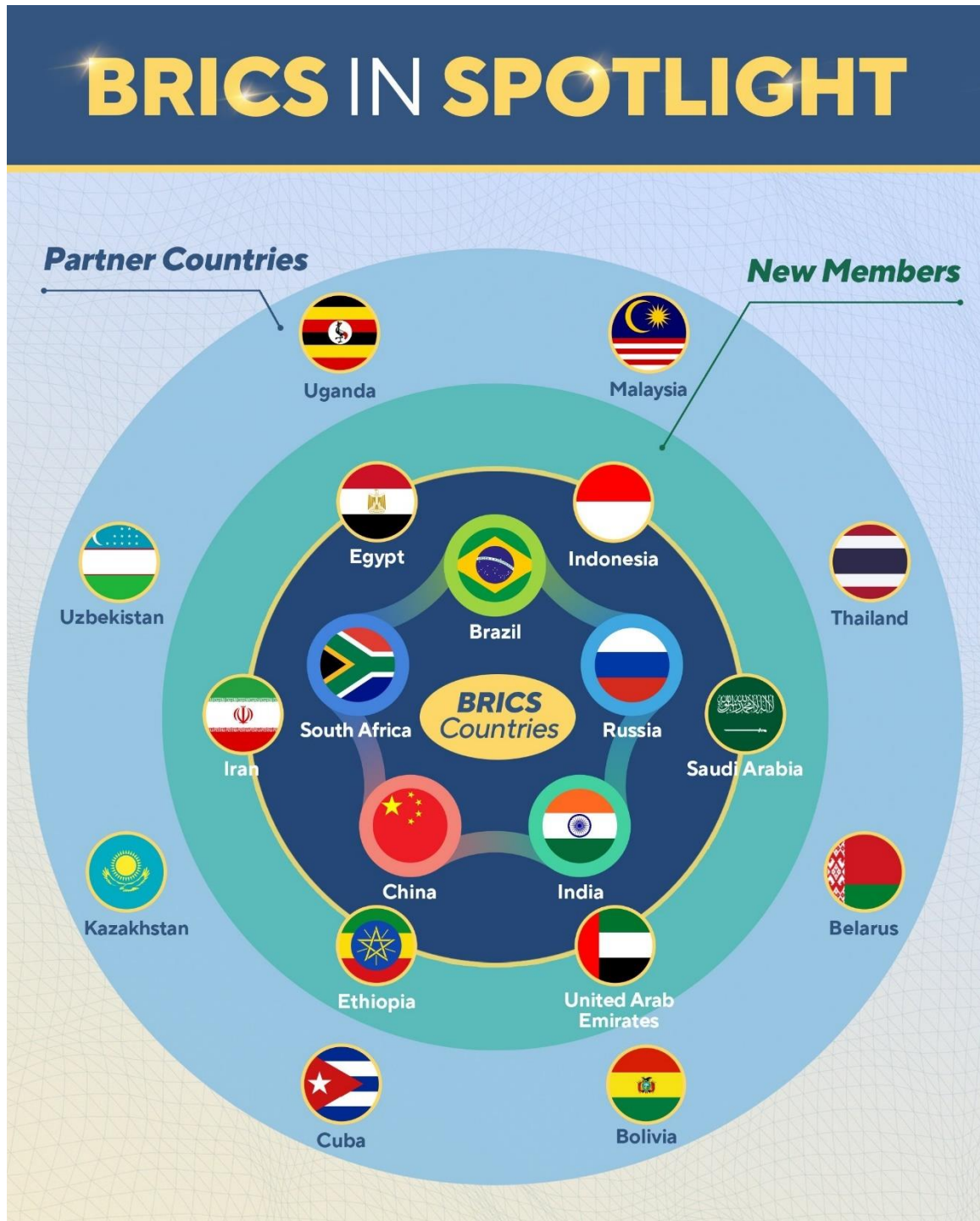
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- All BRICS members encouraged to promote participation of young scientists & startups through initiatives such as **Young Scientists Forum** & **Young Innovators Prize** (both are India's initiatives)

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- India's initiative to create an **International Big Cat Alliance** noted





## India Secures Strategic Lithium Deals in Argentina

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi's ground breaking bilateral visit to Argentina on July 5-6, 2025, marked a watershed moment in India's quest for critical mineral security, particularly lithium, as both nations deepened their strategic partnership across multiple sectors.

- This historic visit—the first by an Indian PM to Argentina in 57 years—has resulted in significant agreements that position India as a key player in Argentina's lithium-rich landscape within the globally significant "**Lithium Triangle.**"
- The strategic importance of this partnership cannot be overstated, as Argentina holds approximately 22 million metric tons of lithium reserves, making it the world's second-largest holder of lithium resources after Bolivia, accounting for around 20-21% of global lithium reserves.
- Two major Indian public sector companies—**Coal India Limited and Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL)**—have signed five concession agreements and are working on finalizing investments to produce, refine, and export lithium minerals.



## Cochin Shipyard Signs MoU With Hyundai

- CSL India's leading public sector shipbuilding and ship repair company, has entered into a comprehensive MoU with South Korea-based HD Korea Shipbuilding & Offshore Engineering Co. Ltd. a global leader in shipbuilding and marine engineering.
- This strategic partnership is designed to foster long-term cooperation across multiple domains of shipbuilding and maritime development, aligning closely with India's national maritime ambitions under the **Maritime India Vision 2030** and the **Maritime Amrit Kaal Vision 2047.**

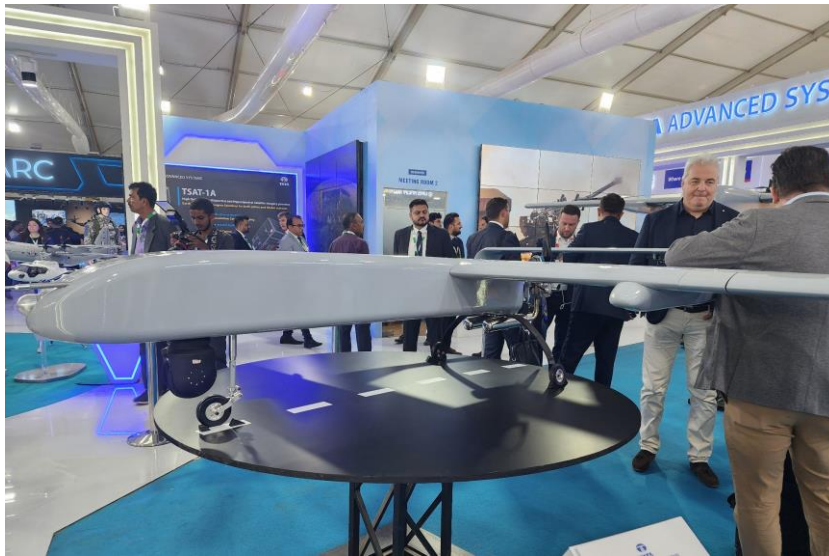


- The MoU outlines several key areas of collaboration. These include the joint exploration of newbuilding opportunities both in India and internationally, sharing of technical expertise to elevate shipbuilding standards to global benchmarks, and identification of initiatives to improve productivity and capacity utilization within shipyards.



## **TASL ALS-250, Indigenous Loitering Munition**

- TATA Advanced Systems Limited's (TASL) ALS-250 represents a significant leap in India's indigenous defence capabilities, particularly in the domain of long-range precision strike weaponry.
- The ALS-250 is a fully indigenous loitering munition, engineered to deliver high-precision strikes at ranges up to 250 kilometers.
- Its deployment can significantly alter the operational calculus by threatening a range of high-value military and strategic assets, thereby enhancing India's deterrence posture and offering a credible option for punitive or pre-emptive actions in the event of hostilities.



## **Defence Minister Rajnath Singh to inaugurate Controllers' Conference 2025**

- The Defence Accounts Department (DAD) will host the Controllers' Conference 2025 from July 7 to 9 at the Dr SK Kothari Auditorium, DRDO Bhawan, New Delhi.
- The conference will be inaugurated by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on July 7, in the presence of top military and civilian leadership including Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan, the three service chiefs, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh, Financial Adviser (Defence Services), S G Dastidar, and Controller General of Defence Accounts Mayank Sharma, marking it as a key platform for shaping the future of India's defence financial architecture said Ministry of Defence.
- A flagship forum for policy dialogue, strategic review, and institutional innovation, the Controllers' Conference brings together top leadership from DAD, the civil service, academia, think tanks, and stakeholders across the defence and finance sectors. It serves as a vital platform for evaluating challenges, initiating reform, and advancing the role of financial governance in defence preparedness.
- The theme of this year's conference, 'Transforming Financial Advice, Payment, Audit and Accounting through Defence Finance and Economics,' reflects a paradigm shift within the department, repositioning DAD from a finance & accounts body to a future-ready institution focused on Defence Finance and Economics. This transformation, guided by the strategic vision articulated by the

Raksha Mantri on October 01, 2024, is internally driven, inclusive, and aligned with emerging national security imperatives.

- The transition is anchored in DAD's new mission statement and Motto 'Alert, Agile, Adaptive' which will be formally released during the event.
- The conference will feature eight high-level business sessions (Manan Satras), covering areas such as budget and accounts reform, internal audit restructuring, collaborative research, pricing innovation, and capacity building. These sessions will explore the evolving role of Integrated Financial Advisors (IFAs) in balancing fiscal prudence with strategic support for a competitive and self-reliant defence industry.
- Managing a defence budget of Rs 26.8 lakh crore, including Rs 1.7 lakh crore dedicated to pensions, DAD plays a pivotal role in payroll, pension disbursement, audit, procurement pricing, and strategic financial advice.
- Aligned with the MoD's declaration of 2025 as the Year of Reform, the conference is expected to yield actionable outcomes that will fortify India's defence financial architecture--driven by Atmanirbhar Bharat and committed to maximum governance with minimum government.



## REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. **Where was the 17th BRICS Summit held in July 2025?**  
A. New Delhi, India



- B. Beijing, China
- C. Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- D. Moscow, Russia

**ANSWER: C**

**2. What was the theme of PM Modi's address at the inaugural session of the BRICS Summit 2025?**

- A. Energy Cooperation and Trade
- B. Reform of Global Governance and Peace and Security
- C. Climate Change and Global Warming
- D. Technological Innovation and Development

**ANSWER: B**

**3. Which country is the world's second-largest holder of lithium reserves after Bolivia?**

- A. Brazil
- B. Argentina
- C. Chile
- D. Australia

**ANSWER: B**

**4. Which two Indian public sector companies have signed concession agreements for lithium production in Argentina?**

- A. ONGC and SAIL
- B. NMDC and BHEL
- C. Coal India Limited and Khanij Bidesh India Limited (KABIL)
- D. HAL and DRDO

**ANSWER: C**

**5. What is the name of the long-range precision strike weapon system developed by TASL?**

- A. ALS-250
- B. Trishul-X
- C. Pralay-II
- D. TASL-R1

**ANSWER: A**

**6. Chairman Of The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) Is**

- A. PM

- B. NSA
- C. CDS
- D. Home Minister

**ANSWER: A**

**7. CBI Hq Is In**

- A. New Delhi
- B. Mumbai
- C. Hyderabad
- D. Chennai

**ANSWER: A**

**8. \_\_\_ Is The Largest Defense Contractors in the World.**

- A. Lockheed Martin
- B. Boeing
- C. Raytheon Technologies
- D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**9. "If you win, you need not have to explain...If you lose, you should not be there to explain!" Said By\_\_\_**

- A. Winston Churchill
- B. Adolf Hitler
- C. Subhas Chandra Bose
- D. Bhagat Singh

**ANSWER: B**

**10. Air Marshal Rank Of IAF Is Equivalent To Which Rank Of Indian Army?**

- A. Brigadier
- B. Lt. Gen
- C. Captain
- D. Major General

**ANSWER: B**

**11. Current Secretary-General Of NATO Is\_\_\_.**

- A. Jens Stoltenberg
- B. Admiral Rob Bauer
- C. General Tod D. Wolters

D. None of the above

**ANSWER: A**

**12. "It Is Our Duty To Pay For Our Liberty With Our Own Blood." Said By\_\_**

A. Pandit Nehru

B. Mahatma Gandhi

C. Subhas Chandra Bose

D. Bhagat Singh

**ANSWER: C**

**13. 'The Communist Manifesto' Book Written By\_\_.**

A. Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels

B. Alexis

C. Thomas Paine

D. Niccolo Machiavelli

**ANSWER: A**

**14. OPEC Hq Is In**

A. Budapest, Hungary

B. New York, USA

C. Luanda, Angola

D. Vienna, Austria

**ANSWER: D**

**15. IPCC Was Created By**

A. WMO & UNEP

B. IMO& UNESCO

C. IMF& WTO

D. UNO& UNFCCC

**ANSWER: A**

**16. Madagascar Is In**

A. Pacific Ocean

B. Indian Ocean

C. Black Sea

D. Arctic Ocean

**ANSWER: B**



**17. Which Is Not The Member Of SAARC?**

- A. Bangladesh
- B. Myanmar
- C. India
- D. Pakistan

**ANSWER: B**

**18. With reference to MILAN Exercise, consider the following statements:**

1. It is a multilateral Naval Exercise conducted by the members of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO).
2. MILAN 2024 conducted in the East China Sea.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

**ANSWER: D**

**19. Mitra Shakti Ex Conducts B/W**

- A. India & Indonesia
- B. India & UK
- C. India & Sri Lanka
- D. India & Thailand

**ANSWER: C**

**20. Varuna Ex Conducts B/W**

- A. India & Indonesia
- B. India & UK
- C. India & France
- D. India & Thailand

**ANSWER: C**