

PRESS RELEASE

Indian Minister of State for External Affairs arrives Egypt for a two-day visit

The Minister of State for External Affairs of India, Mr. E. Ahamed arrived in Egypt on the evening of 29 March 2011.

Minister Ahamed is on a two-day visit to Egypt to hold consultations with the new Government and to reiterate India's desire to strengthen its mutually beneficial ties with Egypt which is in the process of establishing a new democratic framework of governance.

The visiting Minister will call on Prime Minister of Egypt Dr. Essam Sharaf, Deputy Prime Minister Dr. Yehia Al Gamal and Foreign Minister Dr. Nabil El Araby. He will also be meeting the Grand Sheikh of Al Azhar Dr. Ahmed Mohammed Ahmed El Tayeb, Secretary General of the Arab League, Mr. Amr Moussa and Dr. ElBaradei.

Minister Ahamed is also expected to interact with the Egyptian Ministers of Trade & Industry, Communications & Information Technology, Agriculture as well as Planning & International Cooperation.

India and Egypt have traditionally enjoyed close and friendly relations. India has always viewed Egypt as a country which has an important and stabilising role in the region. Both India and Egypt have consistently played a pioneering role in championing the cause of the developing world and non-aligned countries

Minister Ahamed on his arrival made a statement that India welcomes the choice made by the people of Egypt, and the popular will to usher in change and noted that it was remarkable that these changes are being achieved through peaceful means. He said that India stands ready to support the Egyptian people and nation during the transition period.