India and Egypt reaffirm commitment to strengthen bilateral trade, investment and industrial cooperation

Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal concludes official visit to Egypt

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Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal concluded his official visit to the Arab Republic of Egypt from 15 to 16 November 2026. The visit marked his first bilateral visit to an African country. During the visit, the Minister held a series of high-level bilateral meetings, co-chaired the 7th Session of the India–Egypt Joint Trade Committee (JTC), participated in business engagements and interacted with representatives of the Indian and Egyptian business communities.

India and Egypt share longstanding relations rooted in historical, civilizational and people-to-people ties, which have evolved into a multifaceted partnership encompassing political, economic, security and cultural cooperation. Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, India–Egypt relations have gained renewed momentum, culminating in the elevation of bilateral ties to a Strategic Partnership, with a shared commitment to enhanced cooperation in political, security, energy and economic fields.

The visit included the 7th Session of the India–Egypt JTC, the 6th India–Egypt Joint Business Council (JBC) Meeting and Business Forum, and the India–Egypt Startups Forum. During the visit, Shri Piyush Goyal called on Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, held bilateral meetings with Egyptian Ministers and met leading business representatives in Egypt.

The visit provided renewed momentum to the longstanding India–Egypt economic partnership, with both sides reaffirming their commitment to expanding bilateral trade, promoting investments, strengthening industrial cooperation and enhancing business-to-business linkages. Both sides agreed to constitute a Working Group to discuss the modalities and framework for the Terms of Reference for entering into a mutually beneficial PTA/FTA or CEPA, after evaluating the gains for both sides, covering trade in goods, services and investment.

The 7th Session of the India–Egypt Joint Trade Committee was co-chaired by Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal and Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade of Egypt Dr. Mohamed Farid Saleh on 15 November 2026. The JTC was elevated to the

Ministerial level, reflecting the growing importance of economic and commercial engagement between the two countries.

Both sides reviewed developments in bilateral trade and agreed to work towards achieving a target of USD 12 billion in bilateral trade. They emphasised the importance of diversifying the trade basket, promoting higher value-added exports, strengthening market access and addressing trade-related challenges.

Bilateral merchandise trade during April–September 2026 stood at USD 5.04 billion, registering growth of 64 per cent over the corresponding period of the previous year. India's exports to Egypt during FY 2025–26 stood at USD 3.87 billion, while imports from Egypt amounted to USD 2.60 billion (Source: DGCIS).

The discussions covered a broad range of areas, including agricultural and veterinary cooperation, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, engineering goods, chemicals and petrochemicals, fertilisers, textiles, MSMEs, customs, services, renewable energy, green hydrogen, food security, transport and logistics. Both sides underscored the importance of regular exchanges of business delegations, buyer missions, trade exhibitions and business-matching activities.

The two sides discussed concerns relating to GOEIC registration of Indian ceramic tile companies, outstanding commercial payments, trade remedies and participation of Indian companies in Egyptian public procurement tenders. The discussions also covered cooperation in standardisation and conformity assessment, agricultural market access, veterinary services and accreditation of Indian products.

Both sides reviewed investment opportunities in Egypt, particularly in the Suez Canal Economic Zone (SCZONE). Approximately 70 Indian companies are operating in Egypt, with investments of around USD 5 billion. The Egyptian side welcomed greater Indian participation in investment opportunities in sectors such as automotive and auto components, pharmaceuticals, chemicals, textiles, food processing, engineering, renewable energy and logistics.

The two sides also agreed to encourage industrial partnerships and joint ventures in renewable energy, green hydrogen, pharmaceuticals, fertilisers, textiles, automotive components and digital transformation. In the areas of digital technology and fintech, both sides acknowledged the potential of linking India's UPI with Egypt's Instapay, the positive role of trade in local currencies in enhancing exports, and leveraging India's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) to accelerate Egypt's digital transformation.

The Agreed Minutes of the 7th India–Egypt Joint Trade Committee were signed by both Ministers. The next meeting of the JTC will be held in New Delhi in 2028, or earlier, on a mutually convenient date.

On the first day of the visit, Shri Piyush Goyal participated in the 6th India–Egypt Joint Business Council meeting and the India–Egypt Business Forum alongside Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade of Egypt Dr. Mohamed Farid Saleh. The Joint Business Council meeting brought together over 250 members of the Indian and Egyptian business communities and provided an opportunity to identify new avenues for trade, investment and industrial collaboration.

Discussions covered chemicals and petrochemicals, pharmaceuticals and healthcare, food processing and agri-business, renewable energy and green hydrogen, infrastructure, ports and logistics, IT and digital technologies, textiles and automotive sectors. The India–Egypt Business Forum facilitated discussions on sectoral opportunities, investment prospects and business partnerships. The engagements underscored the importance of greater private-sector participation in translating the potential of bilateral economic relations into tangible business outcomes.

On 16 November 2026, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal participated in the India–Egypt Startups Forum alongside Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Egypt Dr. Ahmed Rostom. The Forum brought together startups, incubators, accelerators, venture investors and representatives of relevant government agencies from both countries.

The Forum provided a platform for nearly 50 Indian and Egyptian startups to present their respective innovation ecosystems, exchange experiences and explore collaboration across identified sectors. As part of the Forum, Shri Piyush Goyal held a Startups' Roundtable, during which he interacted with Indian and Egyptian startups along with Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Egypt Dr. Ahmed Rostom. Indian founders presented their offerings for the Egyptian market and outlined the support they were seeking, including distribution partners, pilot projects, certification and local manufacturing. They also interacted with their Egyptian counterparts in related sectors.

During the visit, Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Shri Piyush Goyal called on Prime Minister of the Arab Republic of Egypt Dr. Mostafa Madbouly. He also held bilateral meetings with Minister of Investment and Foreign Trade of Egypt Dr. Mohamed Farid Saleh; Minister of Industry of Egypt Eng. Khaled Hashem; Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and Egyptian Expatriates of Egypt Dr. Badr Abdelatty; Minister of Planning and Economic Development of Egypt Dr. Ahmed Rostom; and Minister of Transport of Egypt Lt. Gen. Eng. Kamel Wazir.

The discussions focused on strengthening bilateral trade and investment relations, promoting industrial cooperation, facilitating business engagements and exploring new opportunities in sectors of mutual interest, including port modernisation, shipbuilding, greenfield and brownfield airport development, and the construction of affordable, high-quality metro rail systems.

The Minister also interacted with Egyptian business leaders and CEOs of select Egyptian companies to explore opportunities for investment, partnerships and expansion of business operations between the two countries.

As part of the visit, the accompanying Indian business delegation interacted with representatives of the African Export-Import Bank (Afreximbank). The discussions covered the Bank's initiatives and potential areas of engagement, including project preparation, project finance, advisory and capital markets, export development, industrial parks and the Africa Trade Gateway. The interaction provided an opportunity to explore avenues for facilitating Indian business engagement in African markets and identifying potential areas of cooperation with the Bank.

Shri Piyush Goyal also interacted with members of the Egyptian Junior Businessmen Association (EJBA), comprising second- and third-generation entrepreneurs from leading Egyptian family businesses, along with Indian companies operating in Egypt and the accompanying Indian business delegation. The interaction focused on strengthening entrepreneurial linkages, promoting partnerships and exploring new opportunities for bilateral business cooperation.

During the visit, the Minister interacted with members of the Indian community and the Indian business community in Egypt at an event organised by the Indian Community Association in Egypt on 14 November 2026. He acknowledged the contribution of the Indian community in strengthening people-to-people and business ties between the two countries.

During his interactions with Egyptian leaders and the business community, Shri Piyush Goyal extended invitations to participate in the Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2027, to be held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, and Bharat Mobility 2027, scheduled from 4 to 9 February 2027 in New Delhi.

India and Egypt share longstanding historical, cultural and diplomatic ties. The India–Egypt Strategic Partnership, launched in 2023, has provided a strong foundation for expanding cooperation across trade, investment, industry and other areas of mutual interest. The visit reaffirmed the shared commitment of both countries to further deepen bilateral trade, investment, industrial partnerships, innovation and business-to-business engagement.

> Good to see growing interest among leading Egyptian businesses in deepening engagement with India. Met Mr. Mohamed Ismail Mansour, Chairman of Infinity Energy to discuss potential opportunities. We see strong scope for collaboration across: 🚗 Automotive manufacturing, EVs, auto components 💳 Fintech & digital payments ☀️ Renewable energy 📦 Logistics, warehousing & supply chain With our large, fast-growing market, strong manufacturing ecosystem, skilled workforce, and attractive investment environment, it is a golden opportunity for businesses in Egypt to partner in India's growth story. 🇮🇳🇪🇬
>
> — Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) November 16, 2026

> The BIG OUTCOME of my Egypt visit! 🇮🇳🇪🇬 https://t.co/bJYVpgPCuG
>
> — Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) November 16, 2026

Called on the Prime Minister of Egypt, Mr. Mostafa Madbouly, in Cairo today. Conveyed the warm greetings of Prime Minister @NarendraModi ji and reaffirmed India’s commitment to taking the India-Egypt Comprehensive Strategic Partnership to new heights. Highlighted the growing presence of Indian companies in Egypt and the immense potential for expanding bilateral trade, boosting investments and exploring new opportunities in manufacturing and technology. Look forward to building on our shared priorities and taking this partnership forward. 🇮🇳 🇪🇬

— Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) November 16, 2026

Had a fruitful interaction with Mr. Badr Abdelatty, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Egypt. Exchanged views on building on our longstanding friendship and discussed ways to further strengthen our Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Also explored avenues for stronger economic ties, greater trade and investment cooperation, and expanded collaboration across key sectors.

— Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) November 16, 2026

Startups from two of the world’s oldest civilisations came together at the India-Egypt Startup Forum to explore new possibilities for collaboration. 🇮🇳 🇪🇬 Always a pleasure to engage with the energy, ideas and innovation of young founders and entrepreneurs. Highlighted India's remarkable startup journey and the opportunities before us to build on our shared strengths. Whether it is digital payments, affordable healthcare, agriculture, tourism or emerging technologies, there is immense potential for our startups to learn from each other, collaborate and co-create solutions for the world. With over 140 Indian companies and startups accompanying the delegation, I am confident that this engagement will take India-Egypt business collaboration to the next level. 📹 https://t.co/T611SjBW4C

— Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) November 16, 2026

A productive interaction with Dr. Ahmed Rostom, Egypt's Minister of Planning and Economic Development. We discussed opportunities to deepen India–Egypt cooperation in economic development, investment, innovation and entrepreneurship. India's dynamic startup ecosystem, supported by digital public infrastructure and an enabling policy framework, offers promising avenues for collaboration with Egypt's growing entrepreneurial ecosystem. We agreed on the importance of fostering stronger linkages between startups, innovators and businesses in both countries to unlock new opportunities for innovation, investment and job creation.

— Piyush Goyal (@PiyushGoyal) November 16, 2026

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Abhishek Dayal/ Garima Singh/ Ishita Biswas

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