

East Asia Summit (EAS)

July 24, 2026 • vajiramandravi.com



East Asia Summit Latest News

Participating in the 21st East Asia Summit in Manila, the External Affairs Minister recently said that the global maritime channels “must remain safe and unimpeded”.

About East Asia Summit

- It is the **Indo-Pacific’s premier forum** for **strategic dialogue**.
- It is the **only leader-led forum** at which **all key Indo-Pacific partners meet** to discuss political, security, and economic challenges facing the region.
- It was **established** in **2005** with the convening of the **1st Summit in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia**.
- **Members:**
 - The EAS has **19 members**: the **11 ASEAN countries** (Brunei, Cambodia, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, Myanmar, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, Timor-Leste, and Vietnam) along with **Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Russia, and the United States**.

- **Timor-Leste** became the **latest member** of the EAS following its ASEAN accession on 26 October 2025.
- India is a founding member of EAS.
- **ASEAN leads the forum**, and the **chair rotates annually among ASEAN member** states.
- **Six priority areas** of regional cooperation within the framework of the EAS:
 - **Environment and Energy,**
 - **Education,**
 - **Finance,**
 - **Global Health Issues** and Pandemic Diseases,
 - Natural **Disaster Management**, and
 - **ASEAN Connectivity.**
- The EAS is an **annual Leaders' Summit** usually held in October or November.
- Along with the Leaders' Summit, each year there is an **EAS Foreign Ministers' Meeting** and an **EAS Economic Ministers' Meeting.**
- Senior officials of EAS participating countries meet throughout the year to prepare for meetings of leaders and ministers and to engage in frank exchanges of views on political, regional security, economic, and other issues.

News: TH

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/east-asia-summit/>

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