

# Brazil V-P, Goyal to hold trade talks

**ARCHIS MOHAN**

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Brazil Vice-President Geraldo Alckmin, who is also his country's minister for trade and industry, landed in India on Wednesday for a three-day visit. He will be attending the inaugural 'trade ministerial review' along with Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal.

India and Brazil are among countries facing the steepest tariffs imposed by the US. They have since July explored ways to increase bilateral trade from \$12.20 billion (2024-25) to \$20 billion in the next five years.

Alckmin's visit will also prepare the ground for Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva's visit to India, along with a sizeable business delegation, in early 2026. Alckmin, accompanied by cabinet ministers, senior officials and a business delegation, will hold the inaugural trade ministerial review meeting with Goyal on Thursday. The delegation comprises executives from oil giant Petrobras, the mining company Vale SA and food processor BRF SA. The two countries will also discuss expanding the Mercosur-India preferential trade agreement.

Alckmin along with the Brazilian defence minister met Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on Wednesday evening. He is also scheduled to meet External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and Oil Minister Hardeep Puri. Alckmin is set to attend the India-Brazil Business Forum, the Ministry of External Affairs said.

On October 3, National Security Advisor Ajit Doval held a meeting with his Brazilian counterpart Celso Luis Nunes Amorim in New Delhi. A Brazilian trade

## India's hectic diplomatic engagements



Sri Lankan Prime Minister Harini Aamarasuriya will be on a three-day visit to India from Thursday, while Brazil's Vice-President Geraldo Alckmin landed in New

Delhi on Wednesday for a three-day visit.

New Delhi is also busy preparing for the visits of Russian President Vladimir Putin, Australian PM Anthony Albanese, and Egypt's Foreign Minister Badr Abdelatty later this week. India's hectic outreach has come in the context of the US President Donald Trump imposing stiff tariffs on India and other countries, and also to put forth its point of view in front of the world post-Operation Sindoor.

delegation was also in India last week.

The external affairs ministry said Alckmin's visit would provide an opportunity to review bilateral trade and investment. It

## Visits of dignitaries to India since August

- August 4-8: President of the Philippines Ferdinand Marcos Jr.
- August 18-19: Chinese Foreign Minister Wang Yi
- September 2-4: Singapore's PM Lawrence Wong
- September 3-6: PM of Bhutan Tshering Tobgay
- October 8-9: UK PM Keir Starmer
- October 9-16: Afghan Foreign Minister Amir Khan Muttaqi
- October 12-14: Canadian Foreign Minister Anita Anand
- October 15-17: Vice President of Brazil Geraldo Alckmin
- October 16-18: Visit of Sri Lankan PM Harini Aamarasuriya

## Forthcoming visits

- Russian President Vladimir Putin in the first week of December
- Australian PM Anthony Albanese likely in November
- Visit of Brazilian President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva early next year
- French President Emmanuel Macron in February

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would also identify new priority sectors, set a road map towards achieving the trade target and further strengthen the multifaceted strategic partnership.