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Relations between Eswatini and India continue to be solidified as His Majesty King Mswati III met India's Minister of State for External Affairs, Pabitra Margherita. The minister paid a courtesy visit to His Majesty at Lozitha Palace yesterday. *(Pics: Mduduzi Mngomezulu)*

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King strengthens ties with India

BY BONGIWE DLAMINI
Lozitha

RELATIONS between the Kingdom of Eswatini and India continue to solidify as His Majesty King Mswati III met India's Minister of State for External Affairs, Pabitra Margherita.

The minister paid an official visit to His Majesty at Lozitha Palace last evening. This marked the start of the minister's three-nation African tour. During the courtesy call on His Majesty, Minister Margherita expressed his appreciation for the warm hospitality extended to him, noting that Eswatini is the first African country he is visiting on this trip.

As a gesture of goodwill, the minister presented His Majesty with a beautifully crafted scarf.

The visit underscores India's commitment to deepening ties with Eswatini through enhanced cooperation in trade, investment, capacity building, and development partnerships.

The minister is also scheduled to meet with Prime Minister Russell Mmiso Dlamini and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation Pholile Shakantu.

Visits

The minister's tour will continue with official visits to Lesotho from July 18 to 22, and South Africa from July 23 to 25.

In Lesotho, he is expected to meet King Letsie III, Prime Minister Samuel Matekane, and several Cabinet ministers. In South Africa, Margherita will lead the Indian delegation at the G-20 Development Ministerial meetings, and hold bilateral discussions with key South African officials and other G-20 representatives.