

Ahamed to attend Arab League summit next week

India will cement its multifaceted ties with the Arab world when Minister of State for External Affairs E. Ahamed goes to Riyadh to represent India at the two-day Arab League summit next week.

This is the third time India has been invited as an observer to the Arab summit, which will begin March 28. The last two summits were held in Algiers and Khartoum in 2005 and 2006 respectively.

'India's participation underlines the policy of enhancing the effectiveness of its relations with the Arab world,' the external affairs ministry said Friday.

'The participation assumes significance in the light of the recent developments concerning Palestine, where a new Palestine National Unity Government has been formed,' the ministry said.

India has welcomed the formation of the new Palestinian government and expressed hope that it will not only alleviate sufferings of the Palestinian people but lead to the resumption of peace process in the Middle East.

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