



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
HANOI**

INDIA NEWSLETTER

(BRINGING YOU THE LATEST NEWS ON INDIA AND
INDIA-VIETNAM RELATIONS)

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PM'S TELEPHONE CALLS WITH WORLD LEADERS

Ever since the outbreak of COVID-19, Prime Minister Modi has had around 60 phone calls with world leaders in all continents since 11 March 2020, forging a strong bond in our collective fight against the COVID-19 pandemic. He spoke with Prime Minister Nguyen Xuan Phuc of Vietnam on April 13, 2020.

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PM ADDRESSES THE VIRTUAL GLOBAL VACCINE SUMMIT 2020

Prime Minister Modi addressed the virtual Global Vaccine Summit hosted by UK Prime Minister Boris Johnson on 4 June 2020. Over 50 countries represented by Heads of State, government ministers, business leaders, civil society, as well as UN agencies participated.



In his address, the Prime Minister said India stands in solidarity with the World in these challenging times. India has pledged US\$15 Million GAVI, the international vaccine alliance. He said the COVID19 pandemic, in some ways, has exposed the limitations of global cooperation and that for the first time in recent history, the human kind faces a clear common enemy. PM Modi reiterated that India stands in solidarity with the world along with its proven capacity to produce quality medicines and vaccines at low cost, its own domestic experience in rapidly expanding immunization and its considerable scientific research talent.

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BARRIER FREE TRADE IN AGRICULTURE SECTOR

#1YearofModi2

Barrier-free trade in agriculture produce

One India, One Agriculture Market

- Ordinance basically aims at creating additional trading opportunities outside the APMC market yards
- To help farmers get remunerative prices due to additional competition
- Will help create One India, One Agriculture Market
- To ensure golden harvests for our hard working farmers

Government of India, on June 3, approved the Farming Produce Trade and Commerce (Promotion / Facilitation) Ordinance, 2020 which eases restrictions in agri-marketing. The ordinance basically aims at creating additional trading opportunities outside the APMC market yards to help farmers get remunerative prices due to additional competition. This will supplement the existing Minimum Support Price (MSP) procurement system which is providing stable income to farmers. It will certainly pave the way for creating "One India, One Agriculture Market" and will lay the foundation for ensuring enhanced harvests for the Indian farmers.

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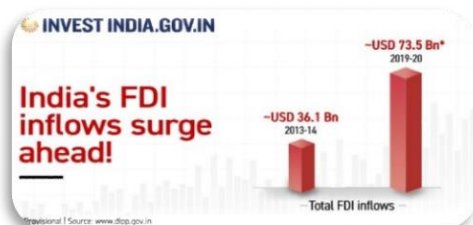
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FOREIGN DIRECT INVESTMENT (FDI) POLICY OF INDIA

Investment climate in India has improved considerably since the opening up of the economy in 1991. This is largely attributed to ease in FDI norms across sectors of the economy. India, today is a part of top 100 club on Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and globally ranks 1st in the greenfield FDI ranking.



Apart from being a critical driver of economic growth, Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) has been a major non-debt financial resource for the economic development of India. Foreign companies invest in India to take advantage of relatively lower wages, special investment privileges like tax exemptions, etc. For a country where foreign investment is being made, it also means achieving technical know-how and generating employment.

The Indian government's favourable policy regime and robust business environment has ensured that foreign capital keeps flowing into the country. The government has taken many initiatives in recent years such as relaxing FDI norms across sectors such as defence, PSU oil refineries, telecom, power exchanges, and stock exchanges, among others.

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CHAMPIONS Portal: Empowering MSME Sector of India

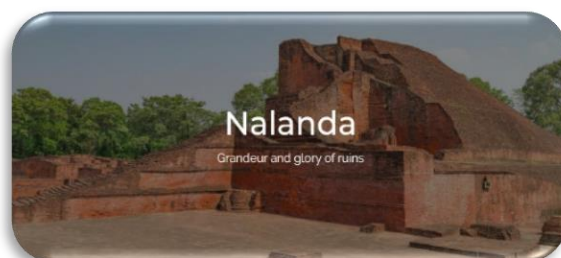
Micro, small and Medium Enterprises popularly called as MSMEs are the backbone of Indian economy. Silently operating in different areas across the country, more than 6 crore MSMEs have a crucial role to play in building a stronger and self-reliant India. In the aftermath of COVID-19 pandemic, Prime Minister Modi was quick to recognise the role of MSMEs in building the Nation. That is why MSMEs formed a very prominent part of the latest announcements made by Government of India under the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan (Self-Reliant India). Under this package, the MSME sector has not only been given substantial allocation but has also been accorded priority in implementation of the measures to revive the economy.



In order to empower MSME sector, PM Modi launched the technology platform called CHAMPIONS (Creation and Harmonious Application of Modern Processes for Increasing the Output and National Strength). The objective of this portal is to: address grievances, help MSMEs capture new opportunities and identify & encourage potential MSMEs.

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NALANDA: UNESCO WORLD HERITAGE SITE



A quaint hamlet scattered with the ruins of one of the greatest educational institutes in history, the Nalanda University, 11 monasteries and six brick temples – the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Nalanda in Bihar, is steeped in history. Echoing with the grandeur and glory of its ancient past, when it served as a prominent Buddhist centre, here one can trace the footsteps of Lord Buddha. A silent witness to the rich history unfolding in the region, Nalanda acts as a memorial of the past, speckled with the legacy of the Mauryan and the Gupta dynasties. It is said that Nalanda University was so renowned that students and travelers from around the world arrived to study here. Chinese traveler Hieun Tsang, who first visited Nalanda in the 7th century, in his writings, mentions that the city was named after a serpent. It is said that Sariputra, an ardent follower of Lord Buddha, was also born here.

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POPULATION OF RARE ASIATIC LIONS INCREASES IN INDIA



The population of rare Asiatic lions in India has jumped by nearly a third in the past five years to almost 700, an official survey said. Prime Minister Narendra Modi expressed his happiness over the increasing population of the majestic Asiatic Lion, living in Gujarat's Gir Forest. In a tweet, Prime Minister Modi said, "Two very good news: Population of the majestic Asiatic Lion, living in Gujarat's Gir Forest, is up by almost 29%. Geographically, distribution area is up by 36%."

Asiatic lions -- slightly smaller than their African cousins and with a fold of skin along their bellies -- are only found in the wild in the Gir sanctuary in the western Indian state of Gujarat.

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YOGA WITH PRIME MINISTER MODI

Yoga, a gift of ancient India to the world, has become a way of life for millions across the world. In the present times, where people all around the world are adapting their lives to the new reality of a pandemic, Yoga has become even more relevant. As we mark the International Day of Yoga on 21st June, these animated videos of Prime Minister Modi, a keen practitioner of Yoga, can help everyone in practicing various Asanas. Let us all contribute to the global healing process and make wellness a part of our lives by embracing Yoga.



[WATCH THE VIDEOS](#)

AUTOMOBILE INDUSTRY

India is expected to be the world's third-largest automotive market in terms of volume by 2026. The industry currently manufactures 25 million vehicles, of which 3.5 million are exported. India holds a strong position in the international heavy vehicles arena as it is the largest tractor manufacturer, second-largest bus manufacturer and third largest heavy trucks manufacturer in the world. The sector attracted \$22.4 billion FDI during April 2000 - June 2019; accounting for 5.1% of the total FDI inflows. 100% FDI is allowed under automatic route in Automobile Sector of India.



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INDIA-VIETNAM DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP: A NEW BLOCK FOR THE OLD-AGE HOME IN QUANG NINH PROVINCE UNDER QUICK IMPACT PROJECT (QIP) PROGRAMME OF GOVERNMENT OF INDIA



During his visit to Quang Ninh province on 11 June, Ambassador Pranay Verma inaugurated a new block for the old-age home at Quang Ninh Social Protection Centre at Nam Khe commune, constructed with Government of India's grant assistance of US\$50,000 under the Quick Impact Project programme. The new block, completed in less than five months, will accommodate 25 senior citizens and will be a modest contribution from India to the commune's socio-economic development efforts.

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INDIA-VIETNAM PROMOTE DEFENCE COOPERATION



On 29 May 2020, Ambassador met with Deputy Defence Minister of Vietnam, Lt. Gen. Nguyen Chi Vinh to exchange views on India-Vietnam Defence Partnership. Gen. Vinh noted the sustained growth and new achievements in recent years in the defence cooperation between Vietnam and India. Ambassador congratulated Vietnam for its success in responding to the Covid-19 pandemic and expressed his pleasure at the development of the India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership, including the defence cooperation. Both sides agreed to continue promoting bilateral defense cooperation in areas such as defence industry and supporting each other in multilateral forums.

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AMBASSADOR'S VISIT TO QUANG NINH PROVINCE (11 JUNE 2020)



As part of Embassy's outreach to the provinces of Vietnam, Ambassador Pranay Verma visited Quang Ninh on 11 June 2020 and met with the Provincial Party Secretary H.E. Mr. Nguyen Xuan Ky. They discussed new avenues for cooperation in trade and economy, technology, higher education, tourism and cultural exchanges. Party Secretary Ky highlighted Quang Ninh's strengths in economy and tourism and proposed holding Indian cultural events in the province, including celebrations for the International Yoga Day. He also welcomed India's famed Bollywood industry to Quang Ninh's iconic locations for film shooting. After their meeting, Party Secretary Ky took Ambassador to some possible locations for hosting the International Yoga Day at Quang Ninh.

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QUANG NINH PROVINCE PREPARES TO HOST THE 6TH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA AT THE SCENIC HALONG BAY



Party Secretary of Quang Ninh, Mr. Nguyen Xuan Ky himself on 11 June took Ambassador Pranay Verma to visit the October 30 Square, next to Ha Long Bay, where the International Day of Yoga (IDY) is expected to be held. The Secretary said that choosing Quang Ninh as the venue for IDY will be a great opportunity for Quang Ninh to promote its image and attract tourists. In order to organize the IDY soon, Mr. Ky requested the local authorities to urgently complete the procedures and ensure the best conditions. Ambassador affirmed that Quang Ninh is an ideal venue for international cultural events. Earlier, in the meeting with Party Secretary Ky, Ambassador also suggested introducing the Indian film industry to the scenic Ha Long Bay for film shooting. Party Secretary Ky welcomed the proposal.

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CLIMATE CHANGE IN INDIA AND INDIA'S RESPONSE



At the Vietnam Institute of Indian Studies and Southwest Asian Studies (VIISAS), Ambassador talked about climate change in India and India's actions at sub-regional, regional and global levels to deal with this serious issue. In his presentation, he highlighted several steps taken by Government of India to deal with climate change issue. Assoc. Prof. Dr. Nguyen Xuan Trung, General-Director, VIISAS and other scholars have welcomed the initiatives taken by India and encouraged to numerous avenues of cooperation in the context of severe impacts of climate change occurring in both countries.

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