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HANOI**

# INDIA NEWSLETTER

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

**AUGUST 2020**

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## INDEX

- **National Education Policy Aims to Keep the Current and Future Generations "Future Ready": PM Modi**
- **Cabinet Approves Setting Up of National Recruitment Agency to Conduct Common Eligibility Test**
- **Farmers Are Now Ready to Be Entrepreneurs, In Line with the Vision of Doubling Farmers' Income: PM Modi**
- **Atmanirbharta in Defence Will Enhance India's Role as A Net Security Provider in Indian Ocean Region: PM Modi**
- **PM Modi Launches Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands**
- **One Year of Development in Jammu & Kashmir**



### National Education Policy Aims to Keep the Current and Future Generations "Future Ready": PM Modi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at the Higher Education Conclave on 7 August. PM mentioned that National Education Policy aims at making the youth Future Ready while focusing on the National Values and National Goals. He further said that the policy lays the foundation of the New India, the 21st Century India, the education and skills needed for the youth to strengthen India, to advance it to new heights of development and to further empower the citizens of India to make them suitable for maximum opportunities.

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### Cabinet Approves Setting Up of National Recruitment Agency to Conduct Common Eligibility Test



### Farmers Are Now Ready to Be Entrepreneurs, In Line with the Vision of Doubling Farmers' Income: PM Modi



Paving the way for a transformational reform in the recruitment process for central government jobs, Union Cabinet approves creation of National Recruitment Agency (NRA) to conduct Common Eligibility Test (CET). PM Modi said that the National Recruitment Agency will prove to be a boon for crores of youngsters. Through the Common Eligibility Test, it will eliminate multiple tests and save precious time as well as resources. This will also be a big boost to transparency.

On 9th August, Prime Minister Modi launched a new Central Sector Scheme of financing facility under the Agriculture Infrastructure Fund of Rs. 1 Lakh Crore. PM Modi's vision of #AatmaNirbharKrishi will collectively herald a new dawn for the agriculture sector in India. It demonstrates the government's commitment to championing the welfare and sustainability of livelihoods for the farmers of India.

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## INDEX (Continued)

- World's Highest Railway Bridge over Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir to Be Ready by Next Year
- Each Village to Be Connected with Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) Connectivity in Next 1000 Days: PM Modi
- "Make in India" with "Make for World" should be Mantra Says PM Modi
- The Influence of Ram is Global, Says PM Modi in Ayodhya
- India Marches Ahead with "Atmanirbhar Bharat"
- National Digital Health Mission: Ensuring Health Services for All
- 74th Independence Day Celebrations in Hanoi
- 17th India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting
- Ambassador Meets Member of Politburo & Executive Secretary, Communist Party of Vietnam

### Atmanirbharta in Defence Will Enhance India's Role as A Net Security Provider in Indian Ocean Region: PM Modi



PM Modi addressed the seminar on Atmanirbhar Bharat in Defence Manufacturing via Video Conferencing on 27 August. Stressing on the need to become Atmanirbhar in Defence Manufacturing, PM said our aim is to boost defence production, develop new technology and give significant roles to private players in the defence sector. He further said that India has the potential to become a reliable supplier of defence equipment. It will strengthen India's strategic partnerships and strengthen India's role as a "net security provider" in the Indian Ocean region.

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### PM Modi Launches Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands

PM Modi Launches Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Islands

2300 Kms submarine cable completed before set target; will boost the opportunities in the Andaman & Nicobar Islands (A&N)

To promote Ease of Business & simplify Maritime logistics making A&N a major port hub for international maritime trade

A&N to get all the benefits of Digital India with cheaper & better connectivity, improving online education, tele-medicine, banking system etc

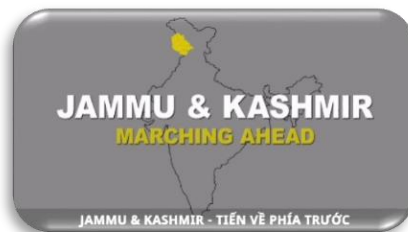
Service has begun on major islands from Chennai to Port Blair, Port Blair to Little Andaman & Port Blair to Swaraj Island

Date: 10<sup>th</sup> August

On 10th August through video conferencing, Prime Minister Modi launched and dedicated to the nation, the submarine Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) connecting Andaman & Nicobar Islands to the mainland. From ease doing of business to promoting digital education, the launch of Submarine Cable Connectivity to Andaman & Nicobar Island will give a boost to various sectors in the Union Territory.

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### One Year of Development in Jammu & Kashmir



On August 5, 2020, the Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and the Union Territory of Ladakh completed one year since the repeal of Article 370 of the Indian Constitution, bringing about a new era of good governance, socio-economic justice and economic development in the Union Territory. Please see the major highlights in the last one year of this journey of inclusive development and transparent governance in the entire region. #OneYearOfDevelopment

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### AatmaNirbharBharat Abhiyan



ECONOMY



INFRASTRUCTURE



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## INDEX (Continued)

- Ambassador Meets Member of Politburo & Executive Secretary, Communist Party of Vietnam
- Ambassador Hosts Former Ambassadors of Vietnam to India
- Ambassador Meets Director of Institute for Defence Strategy (IDS) of Vietnam
- Ambassador's Visit to Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), Vietnam
- India-Vietnam Development Partnership in Digital Connectivity
- Ambassador's Interview by Vietnamese Media
- Indian Ambassador Hails Partnership with Vietnam
- e-ITEC programme on "Policing during Pandemic Times" at Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD)
- World Lion Day
- World Elephant Day

### World's Highest Railway Bridge over Chenab River in Jammu and Kashmir to Be Ready by Next Year



The world's highest railway bridge over river Chenab in Jammu and Kashmir will be ready by next year and will connect the Valley with the rest of India by train for the first time by 2022. The package is meant for strengthening socio - economic infrastructure and balanced regional development of Jammu and Kashmir. This is the tallest railway bridge in the world and the maximum designed wind speed for the bridge is 266 kmph.

#OneYearOfDevelopment

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### With the Launch of the Tax Charter, Taxpayer is Assured of Fair, Courteous and Rational Behavior: PM Modi

On 13 August, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched a platform for "Transparent Taxation - Honouring the Honest" through video conferencing. Speaking on the occasion he said that the process of Structural Reforms in the country has reached new heights today. The Prime Minister said



the platform of "Transparent Taxation - Honouring the Honest, has been launched to meet the requirements of the 21st century taxation system. He elaborated that the platform has major reforms like Faceless Assessment, Faceless Appeal and Taxpayers Charter.

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### Each Village to Be Connected with Optical Fibre Cable (OFC) Connectivity in Next 1000 Days: PM Modi



"In the coming 1000 days, every village in the country will be connected with optical fibre cable," Prime Minister Modi said in his address on the occasion of 74th Independence Day of India. PM mentioned that Participation of rural India and villages in Digital India is very important for balanced development of India. To enable this, we will rapidly expand our optical fibre network. This will reach all the 600,000 villages within 1,000 days.

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### "Make in India" with "Make for World" should be Mantra Says PM Modi

Addressing the Nation from the ramparts of the Red Fort on the occasion of 74th Independence Day, Prime Minister Modi talked about various issues ranging from management of the Covid-19 pandemic, measures to boost domestic manufacturing as part of the Aatmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan, steps to revive the economy with a focus on middle class people. Over 130 crore Indians have decided to become 'Aatmanirbhar' amid the coronavirus pandemic. "Becoming 'Aatmanirbhar (self-reliant)' is mandatory. I am confident that India will realise this dream. I am confident of the abilities, confidence and potential of my fellow Indians. Once we decide to do something, we do not rest until we achieve that goal," PM Modi said.



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## INDEX (Continued)

- World Elephant Day
- After Tiger, Lion & Dolphin to Get Projects for Conservation
- Dal Lake- Exuding A Romantic Aura in Jammu and Kashmir
- Renewable Energy- Creating a Sustainable World

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### The Influence of Ram is Global, Says PM Modi in Ayodhya



Speaking in Ayodhya, after the Bhoomi Pujan of Ram Temple, Prime Minister Modi mentioned about several nations, where Ram is revered. He said that influence of Ram is global and a grand Ram Temple in Ayodhya would showcase the rich heritage of Indian culture to the world. PM Modi added that the Ram Temple will inspire the entire humanity for eternity. Understanding this, he said, the Ram Circuit is being built to connect the places visited by Bhagwaan Ram.

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### National Digital Health Mission: Ensuring Health Services for All



The ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and India's simultaneous graded and proactive approach that made the country "Atmanirbhar (Self-Reliant)" found a place in the Prime Minister's address to the Nation on the 74th Independence Day, as he highlighted the accomplishments of the Central government in the field of health. Announcing the National Digital Health Mission, Prime Minister said that a Unique Health ID will be provided to every citizen which will have details of the diseases, diagnosis, report, medication etc., in a common database through a single ID.

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### India Marches Ahead with "Atmanirbhar Bharat"

The Centre has been leading the graded, pre-emptive, proactive and collaborative response and management of COVID-19, along with the State/UT governments. As part of its continued efforts towards progressively augmenting and strengthening the medical infrastructure across the country, various policy decisions have been taken on a regular basis. Turning the pandemic into an opportunity to develop its domestic market for production of medical equipment, with the combined efforts of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Textiles, Ministry of Pharmaceuticals, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and others, India has hugely ramped up its own manufacturing capacity.



The "Make in India" spirit embedded in the Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyaan has resulted in providing resilience and self-sufficiency to the country for various medical equipment including PPEs.

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### 74th Independence Day Celebrations in Hanoi

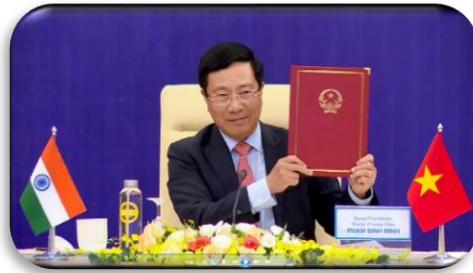


On 15th August 2020, Embassy of India, Hanoi celebrated the 74th Independence Day of India. Due to COVID situation the celebration was held virtually. Here is a [glimpse](#).



### 17th India-Vietnam Joint Commission Meeting

The 17th Meeting of the India-Vietnam Joint Commission meeting was co-chaired by Dr. S. Jaishankar, External Affairs Minister of India and H.E. Mr. Pham Binh Minh, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Vietnam on 25 August 2020 through video - conference. The two Ministers reviewed recent developments in India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership and discussed the future trajectory of their wide-ranging engagement.



They also exchanged views on regional and international issues of mutual interest, especially in the context of the outbreak of COVID-19 pandemic. Both leaders agreed to coordinate closely at multilateral forums, including at the UN Security Council, where India and Vietnam will serve concurrently as non-permanent members in 2021.

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### Ambassador Meets Member of Politburo & Executive Secretary, Communist Party of Vietnam

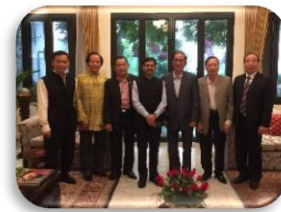


Ambassador Pranay Verma met the Member of Politburo and Executive Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Vietnam, H.E. Mr. Tran Quoc Vuong on 4 August 2020 in Hanoi and discussed wide-ranging cooperation between India and Vietnam. They underlined the shared commitment of the two sides to advance their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership by overcoming the crisis of #COVID19 pandemic and creating new opportunities for collaboration.

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### Ambassador Hosts Former Ambassadors of Vietnam to India

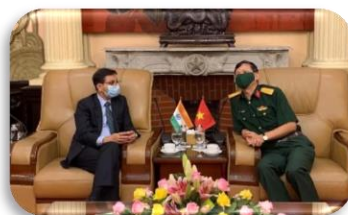
Ambassador hosted former Foreign Minister of Vietnam, H.E. Mr. Nguyen Dy Nien and a distinguished group of former Ambassadors



and diplomats who served in India over the last four decades and have closely witnessed and contributed to the great friendship between our two countries solidifying over the years. All of them were part of some historic moments in India-Vietnam relationship. Former Foreign Minister Niên, who himself studied in India, was the Hindi interpreter of President Ho Chi Minh during his visit to India in 1958. Their stories and warm sentiments about our relations are truly inspiring.

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### Ambassador Meets Director of Institute for Defence Strategy (IDS) of Vietnam



Ambassador met the Director of Institute for Defence Strategy (IDS) of Vietnam, Senior Col. Vu Cuong Quyet on 6 August 2020 and exchanged views on India-Vietnam bilateral defence partnership and regional and global issues of common interest. IDS is one of the premier think-tanks of Vietnam under the Ministry of National Defence and has institutional linkages with India's Manohar Parrikar Institute for Defence Studies and Analyses (MP-IDSA).

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### Ambassador's Visit to Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM), Vietnam



Ambassador met the President of the Central Institute for Economic Management (CIEM) of Vietnam, Dr. Tran Thi Hong Minh on 17 August 2020 and had a detailed exchange of views on economic partnership between India and Vietnam. CIEM is a premier thinktank of Govt. of Vietnam focussing on economic issues. Ambassador gave an overview of the measures being taken by Government of India, including the vision of #AatmaNirbharBharat, for India's socio-economic transformation and the opportunities they create for close partners like Vietnam. Ambassador also looked forward to CIEM's active support in building a long-term vision for economic cooperation between India and Vietnam.

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### India-Vietnam Development Partnership in Digital Connectivity



On 7 August 2020, Ambassador Pranay Verma and Mr. Vu Van San, President of Posts and Telecommunications Institute of Technology (PTIT) of Vietnam signed an Addendum to the Agreement for implementation of a project to set up a state-of-the-art centre for advanced IT Training at PTIT, Ho Chi Minh City with an Indian assistance of US\$ 1.08 million under the ASEAN-India Cooperation Fund. The project is being implemented by Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC) which is the premier R&D organization of India at the forefront of the country's IT revolution. Speaking on the occasion, Ambassador recalled the successful legacy of India's development partnership in Vietnam and highlighted digital connectivity, as exemplified by the upcoming IT centre, as an emerging priority of India-Vietnam development partnership.

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### Ambassador's Interview by Vietnamese Media



Ambassador Pranay Verma was interviewed on 7 August by four audio-visual news outlets of Vietnam - VOV1, VTC, VOV5 and CPV Online - on a range of issues covering India-Vietnam relations, India's socio-economic response to COVID-19 and the vision of #AatmaNirbharBhaarat.

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### Indian Ambassador Hails Partnership with Vietnam

On the occasion of 74 Independence Day of India, Vietnam News carried an article from the Ambassador, in which he outlined the growing partnership between India and Vietnam. Ambassador highlighted that the scale of transformation to a 'New India' as envisioned by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, will create capabilities and generate demands that will offer great opportunities for India's partners, including Vietnam. Ambassador expressed confidence that both India and Vietnam will take their Comprehensive Strategic Partnership to newer heights aligned with their national development priorities.

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### e-ITEC programme on "Policing during Pandemic Times" at Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD)



A two-day e-ITEC programme on "Policing during Pandemic Times" at Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) was organized by Ministry of External Affairs from 10-11 August. A delegation from Ministry of Public Security from Vietnam participated in the virtual session.

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### World Lion Day



World Lion Day is celebrated every year on August 10 to bring awareness to the declining population of lions from extinction. The big cat is listed as an endangered species in the IUCN Red List. In India, lions are currently found in the protected areas and agro-pastoral landscape of Gujarat's Saurashtra region. According to the latest figures, India recorded the highest ever increase, 29 per cent, in its lion population from 523 in 2015 to 674 in 2020. The conservation success can be attributed to people's participation, use of technology, increase in prey base, human-lion conflict mitigation etc.

### World Elephant Day



World Elephant Day is observed on 12 August annually to make people understand to preserve and protect the giant animal elephant. India is supporting more than 60% of the global Asian elephant population, estimated at 29,964 according to the 2017 census by Project Elephant. 30 Elephant Reserves have been identified by our States. India has also taken several initiatives and set standards for conservation of Asian elephants. India's first elephant reserve was the Singhbhum Elephant Reserve in 2001 in Jharkhand. Today we have 30 Elephant reserves, covering an area of around 65,000 sq. km in 14 states.

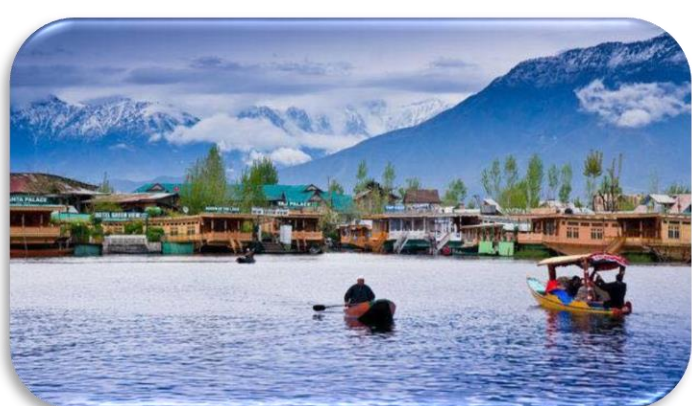


### After Tiger, Lion & Dolphin to Get Projects for Conservation

On the lines of the successful conservation programmes Project Tiger and Project Elephant, India will now have two more similar missions, Project Dolphin and Project Lion, to protect these species in their natural habitat in a holistic manner. Underlining that country is committed towards promotion and conservation of its biodiversity, PM Modi said "India has shown that the march towards development is possible by balancing the environment."

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### Dal Lake – Exuding A Romantic Aura in Jammu and Kashmir



One of the most magnificent and popular attractions in Srinagar is the Dal Lake. Nestled at the foothills of Mount Shridhara, the glistening waters of this lake are a sight to behold. Set against the cinematic backdrop of the Pir Panjal mountain ranges, the Dal Lake exudes a peaceful vibe and a romantic aura. It is dotted with elaborate houseboats that are decorated with intricate wood carvings, and colourful shikaras (narrow wooden boats that resemble the gondolas in Venice). Visitors can rent these houseboats, some of which are very luxurious, and enjoy a few hours of sailing in the lake. Make sure to look out for flower and vegetable vendors on similar boats, selling their wares to tourists. There are many floating restaurants and photography studios as well.

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### Renewable Energy- Creating a Sustainable World

India has the largest renewable energy expansion plan globally. The Government's renewable energy goals are helping #NewIndia make significant progress towards achieving 100% rural electrification. In 2019, India was ranked as the fourth most attractive renewable energy market in the world. The country has set an ambitious target of 450 GW of renewable power by 2030. This is the world's largest expansion plan in renewable energy. Up to 100% FDI is allowed under the automatic route for renewable energy generation and distribution projects subject to provisions of The Electricity Act, 2003.

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**Brightening rural India!**

**6.8 Lakh+** Street lights set up | **2.5 Lakh+** Solar PV pumps installed

Source: Annual Report 2019-20, Ministry of New & Renewable Energy

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