



**EMBASSY OF INDIA
HANOI**

INDIA NEWSLETTER

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

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India-Vietnam Virtual Summit

On 21 December, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi held a Virtual Summit with H.E. Nguyen Xuan Phuc, Prime Minister of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. The two Prime Ministers reviewed ongoing bilateral cooperation initiatives,

and also discussed regional and global issues. A '[Joint Vision for Peace, Prosperity and People](#)' document was adopted during the Summit to guide the future development of the India-Vietnam Comprehensive Strategic Partnership. Both leaders also welcomed the signing of a Plan of Action for period 2021-2023 to implement the Joint Vision. The leaders affirmed the importance of enhancing bilateral cooperation in all areas of engagement. They agreed to support each other's national development priorities and work together towards the shared objective of a peaceful, stable, secure, free, open, inclusive and rules-based Indo-Pacific region.



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Naval Passage Exercise PASSEX between India and Vietnam



Indian and Vietnamese Navy concluded the two-day naval passage exercise PASSEX in the South China Sea as part of efforts to boost maritime cooperation between the two countries. Indian Naval Ship Kiltan, carrying humanitarian assistance reached Vietnam's Nha Rong Port in Ho Chi Minh City on 24 December to deliver 15 tonnes of relief material for flood-affected people in central Vietnam under Mission Sagar-III. This mission of

INS Kiltan was part of India's Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) assistance to Friendly Foreign Countries during the ongoing pandemic.

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PM Delivers Keynote Address at ASSOCHAM Foundation Week 2020

While addressing keynote address at ASSOCHAM Foundation Week 2020 via video conferencing on 19 December, Prime Minister Narendra Modi commended the business community for their contribution to nation-building. He said now the industry has complete freedom to touch the sky and urged them to take full advantage of it, put your full strength in the coming years for a self-reliant India, he said. He further said even during the pandemic, when the whole world is troubled for investment, record FDI and PFI have come to India as the world trusts the Indian economy now. He gave a call for the industry to increase the domestic investment drastically in line with the increased confidence of the world. He said for the dream of a self-reliant India, the country has made up its mind for the necessary changes in the rules and regulations, the country is committed.

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PM Addresses Centenary Celebrations of Aligarh Muslim University

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Centenary Celebrations of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) on 22 December through video conference. He also released a postal stamp commemorating the event. Speaking on the occasion, PM Modi recalled Sir Sayyad's remark that the 'the first and foremost duty of one who is concerned about his country is to work for the welfare of all people. Irrespective of the caste, creed or religion.' He stressed that the country is proceeding on a path where every citizen is assured of his or her constitution-given rights, no one should be left behind due one's religion and this is the basis of the pledge 'sabka saath, sabka vikas, sabk viswas'. PM gave examples of the government schemes providing benefits without any discrimination. Vision of new India envisages that the development of the nation and society should not be seen from a political angle.

PM MODI ADDRESSES
Centenary Celebrations of Aligarh Muslim University

Key Highlights (1/2)

- The country is proceeding on a path where every citizen is assured of his or her constitution-given rights; The country's resources belong to every citizen
- The govt is focused on education and empowerment of Muslim daughters. In the last 6 years, scholarships were given to nearly 1 crore Muslim daughters
- There was a time when the school dropout of Muslim girls was 70%. Now it has come down to 30% because of Swachh Bharat Mission
- The country took forward the efforts to build a modern Muslim society by ending the practice of triple talaq

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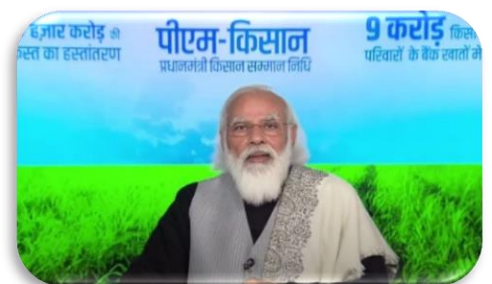
India Has Data, Demography, Demand, Democracy to Achieve World Class Scientific Solutions: PM



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi delivered the inaugural address at India International Science Festival (IISF) 2020. Speaking on the occasion, PM Modi said India has a rich legacy in science, technology and innovation. Our scientists have done path breaking research. Our tech industry is at the forefront of solving global problems. But India wants to do more. We look at the past with pride but want an even better future, PM Modi said. He said all our efforts are aimed at making India the most trustworthy centre for scientific learning. He gave a call to the global community to invest in Indian talent and innovate in India. He said Science brings out the best within the person and uses the power of difference. He lauded our scientist for keeping India ahead and in a better position in the fight against Corona.

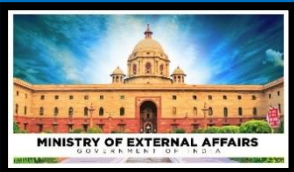
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Time Has Come for Brand India to Establish Itself in the Agricultural Markets of the World: PM



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 25 December released the next instalment of financial benefit under PM Kisan Samman Nidhi through video conference. Speaking on the occasion, PM Modi said Rs 18000 crore have been deposited directly in the bank account of more than 9 crore farmer families in the country at the click of a button today. He added ever since this scheme started, more than 1 lakh 10 thousand crore rupees have reached the account of farmers. He listed some farmer-centric initiatives of the Government like Soil Health Card, Neem Coating of Urea, scheme for distribution of Solar Pumps which helped in reducing the input cost for the farmers. He thanked all the farmers across the country who have fully supported and welcomed the agricultural reforms and assured that he will not let them down.

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PM Launches Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY SEHAT to Extend Coverage to All Residents of Jammu & Kashmir



Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launched Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY SEHAT to extend coverage to all residents of Jammu & Kashmir through video conference. Talking about the Jammu and Kashmir Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY SEHAT scheme, PM Modi said getting free treatment up to 5 lakh rupees under this scheme would improve the ease of living. Right now, about 6 lakh families of the Union Territory are getting the benefit of Ayushman Bharat Scheme. All 21 lakh families will get the same benefit after the SEHAT scheme. He added another benefit of this scheme would be that treatment is not limited to government and private hospitals in Jammu and Kashmir only. Rather, treatment can be availed from thousands of hospitals empanelled under this scheme in the country. He further said that the development of the people of Jammu and Kashmir is one of the biggest priorities of his government.

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PM Inaugurates India's First-Ever Driverless Train Operations on Delhi Metro's Magenta Line



On 28 December, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first-ever driverless train operations on Delhi Metro's Magenta Line through a video conference. The National Common Mobility Card was also expanded to the Airport Express Line of Delhi Metro, which was started in Ahmedabad last year. Speaking on the occasion, PM lamented the fact that a few decades ago, when the demand of urbanisation was felt, there was not much attention given to the needs of the future, half-hearted work was done, and confusion persisted. He said unlike this, modern thinking says that urbanization should not be seen as a challenge but used as an opportunity to build better infrastructure in the country, an opportunity through which we can enhance Ease of Living. He said this difference of thinking is seen now in every dimension of urbanization. Prime Minister said with the achievement of Metro Rail without a driver, our country has joined the select countries of the world where such facilities are available.

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PM Flags Off 100th Kisan Rail

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the 100th Kisan Rail from Sangola in Maharashtra to Shalimar in West Bengal on 28 December via video conferencing. Speaking on the occasion, PM Modi termed the Kisan Rail Service as a major step towards increasing the income of the farmers of the country. He expressed happiness that even during the Corona pandemic, 100 Kisan Rails were launched in the last 4 months. He said this service will bring a major change in the economy related to farming and will also increase the strength of the country's cold supply chain. PM said the Kisan Rail project not only shows the commitment of the Government to serve the farmers but also serves as a proof of how fast our farmers are ready for new possibilities. He said that Kisan Rail is a mobile cold storage to move perishable things like fruits, vegetables, milk, fish, etc., with complete security.



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United States Confers 'Legion of Merit' Award on Prime Minister Narendra Modi

The President of the United States of America conferred the highest decoration, The Legion of Merit, Degree Chief Commander, to Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 21 December 2020. The award is in recognition of the Prime Minister's steadfast leadership and vision for India's emergence as a global power, and exemplary contribution made by him for the advancement of the India-United States strategic partnership and promoting global peace and prosperity. The Legion of Merit, in the highest degree of the Chief Commander, is a prestigious award conferred by the President of the United States, typically upon Heads of State or Heads of Government of other countries. The award was received on behalf of the Prime Minister by the Ambassador of India to the United States Taranjit Singh Sandhu. At the ceremony, The Legion of Merit, Degree Chief Commander, was also awarded to the Prime Minister of Australia Scott Morrison, and former Prime Minister of Japan, Shinzo Abe.



India's Economy Could Prove to Be 'Most Resilient' in Subregion over Long Term: UN report

India's economy could prove to be the "most resilient" in the subregion of South and South-West Asia over the long term, said a report by the United Nations, stating that a positive but lower economic growth post-COVID-19 pandemic and the country's large market will continue to attract investments. According to the report "Foreign Direct Investment Trends And Outlook In Asia And The Pacific 2020/2021", compiled by United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (UNESCAP), Foreign Direct Investment flows to South and South-West Asia slightly decreased by 2 percent in 2019, from \$67 billion in 2018 to \$66 billion in 2019. The growth, however, was mainly driven by India, which accounted for 77 percent of the total inflows and received \$51 billion in 2019, up 20 percent from the previous year, it said. The report noted that the majority of these flows were destined for the information and communications technology (ICT) and the construction sub-sector.



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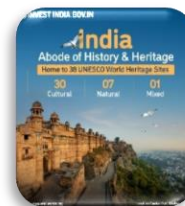


Kaziranga National Park: The Rhino Land

One of the greatest wildlife emblems of the country, the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Kaziranga National Park in Assam, is famed as a home to two-thirds of the world's population of the rare one-horned rhinoceros. With the mighty Brahmaputra river lapping at the fringes, the park encompasses wetlands, forests and grasslands, which shelter a sizeable population of tigers as well. Moreover, the park is an abode of world-famous snakes - the rock python, the reticulated python and the king cobra, the longest venomous snake. Eastern swamp deer and wild water buffalo are common sights. The park is surrounded by ancient temples, pristine waterfalls, and lush tea estates.



New India – A Mosaic of Cultures Manifested through Art, Music and Unique Experiences!



Tourism is an integral pillar of the Make in India programme. Tourism plays a role of significant economic multiplier and becomes critical since India has to grow at rapid rates

and create jobs. India ranks 3rd in WTTC Travel & Tourism Power and Performance ranking. India is 8th largest tourism economy and 9th largest in cultural resources and business travel in the world. India offers geographical diversity, world heritage sites and niche tourism products like cruises, adventure, medical, eco-tourism, etc. Incredible India has spurred growth in Tourists Arrivals and Employment. By 2030, India is expected to be among the top five business travel market.

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