



**EMBASSY OF INDIA  
HANOI**

# INDIA NEWSLETTER

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

**JANUARY 2021**

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## INDEX

- **President of India Addresses the Nation on the Eve of 72nd Republic Day of India**
- **Nation Celebrates 72nd Republic Day with Zeal and Pride**
- **PM Addresses World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogue**
- **Nation Remembers Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on His Birth Anniversary: 23rd January to be Celebrated as "PARAKRAM DIWAS" Every Year**
- **Prime Minister Addresses Climate Adaptation Summit 2021**
- **PM Interacts with Recipients of Rashtriya Bal Puraskar, 2021**
- **National Cadet Corps has Major Role to Play in Instilling Sense of Discipline in Social Life of India: Prime Minister**
- **Vice President Calls upon Youth to Be at Forefront in Scripting India's Growth Story**

### President of India Addresses the Nation on the Eve of 72nd Republic Day of India

Addressing the Nation on the eve of the 72nd Republic Day of India, President of India Shri Ram Nath Kovind



said that India's effective response to the Covid-19 pandemic would not have been possible without our Constitutional value of 'Fraternity'. Apart from the pandemic, President also made mention of the contributions by country's farmers, scientists, armed forces and the Indian diaspora abroad to India's development. While spelling out the importance of Constitutional values, President Kovind also remembered icons such as Bal Gangadhar Tilak, Lala Lajpat Rai, Mahatma Gandhi and Subhas Chandra Bose who made invaluable contributions to the freedom struggle. He also took pride in the fact that India is called as "pharmacy of the world" for supplying medicines to numerous countries to contain sufferings across the globe. He noted that our democracy is vibrant and our commitment to good governance and transparency is stronger than ever before.

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### Nation Celebrates 72nd Republic Day with Zeal and Pride



India has celebrated its 72nd Republic Day on 26 January. The main function was held at Rajpath in the National Capital where President Ram Nath Kovind took the salute of the parade. During the function, indigenously developed Main Battle Tank of the Indian Army, T-90 Bhisma, Infantry Combat Vehicle BMP II, Brahmos Weapon System, Pinaka Bridge Laying tanks T-72, Samvijay Electronic Warfare System were the main attraction in the mechanised columns. Naval Tableau titled Swarnim Vijay Varsh showcased the Indian Navy's attack on Karachi harbour in 1971. A 122-member proud contingent of the Bangladesh armed forces also marched on Rajpath. India's military might, cultural diversity, social and economic progress were on display during the 72nd Republic Day celebrations at the majestic Rajpath in New Delhi. It showcased India's strides in indigenous defence technologies.

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### PM Addresses World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogue

While addressing the World Economic Forum's Davos Dialogue on 28 January via video conferencing, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that he has brought the message of confidence, positivity and hope from 1.3 billion Indians amidst these times of apprehension. He told the gathering that despite the initial misgivings about the India's capacity to handle the pandemic, India moved forward with proactive and pro-participation approach and worked on strengthening the COVID specific health infrastructure, trained its human resource to tackle the pandemic and used technology massively in testing and tracking of the cases. In India, fight against corona was turned into people's movement and India succeeded in saving lives of maximum number of its citizens. He also talked about the world's biggest vaccination drive and India's global efforts during the pandemic. He informed that apart from the two-current 'Made in India' vaccines, more vaccines are in pipeline which will enable India to help the world at greater scale and speed.

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## INDEX (Continued)

- **India Can Show the Way to the World through Its Philosophy of 'Universal Oneness': Vice President**
- **Indian Pharmaceuticals - A Formula for Success**
- **Ahmedabad - India's First World Heritage City**
- **India Provides Flood Relief Material to Vietnam**
- **Embassy Organises Seminar on Promotion of Trade and Investment in Pharma Sector**
- **Celebration of Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose**
- **72nd Republic Day of India Celebrated in Hanoi**
- **Ambassador Delivers Lecture at Academy of Politics, Can Tho City**
- **Ambassador Visits Ho Chi Minh University of Technology and Education (HCM-UTE)**
- **Embassy's Annual Media Get-Together**

### **Nation Remembers Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on His Birth Anniversary: 23rd January to be Celebrated as "PARAKRAM DIWAS" Every Year**



To honour and remember the legendary freedom fighter and founder of Indian National Army, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's indomitable spirit and selfless service to the nation, Government of India has decided to celebrate his birthday on the 23rd day of January every year as "PARAKRAM DIWAS" to inspire people of the country, especially the youth, to act with fortitude in the face of adversity as Netaji did, and to infuse in them a spirit of patriotic fervour. From 23 January 2021, a year-long celebration to commemorate 125th birth anniversary year of Netaji has started. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi presided over the inaugural function of the 'Parakram Diwas' celebrations at Victoria Memorial in Kolkata. Speaking on the occasion, Prime Minister said, "Today is the birthday of that brave son of Maa Bharti who gave new direction to the dream of independent India. Today is the day we celebrate the consciousness that tore through the darkness of slavery and challenged the mightiest power of the world with the words that I will not beg for freedom, I will take it."

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### **Prime Minister Addresses Climate Adaptation Summit 2021**



Addressing the online Climate Adaptation Summit hosted by Netherlands, Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi said that Climate Adaptation is more significant today than ever before and it is a key element of India's developmental efforts. He said, "We have promised ourselves that, we will not just meet our Paris Agreement targets, but exceed them; we will not just arrest environmental degradation but reverse it and we will not just create new capacities but make them an agent for global good." He said that India's actions show its commitment and that India's civilizational values teach us the importance of living in harmony with nature. To adapt to Climate Change, our lifestyles must also adapt to this ideal and this sentiment should guide our way forward, Prime Minister emphasized.

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### **PM Interacts with Recipients of Rashtriya Bal Puraskar, 2021**

Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP) awardees on 25 January via video conferencing. PM Modi said that this year's awards are special as the recipient earned them in the difficult times of Corona. During the interaction, he acknowledged the role of children in major behaviour-change campaigns like swachhta movement. He said when children got involved in campaigns like handwash campaign during Corona time, the campaigns caught the imagination of people and achieved success. He also noted the diversity in the fields in which awards have been given this year. The Government of India has been conferring the Bal Shakti Puraskar under Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar to the children with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievement in the fields of innovation, scholastic achievements, sports, arts & culture, social service and bravery.



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## National Cadet Corps has Major Role to Play in Instilling Sense of Discipline in Social Life of India: Prime Minister

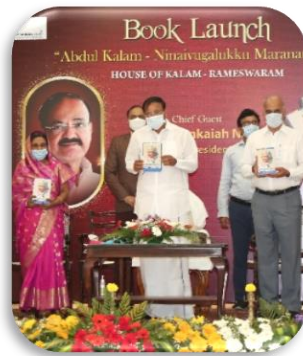
Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the role of National Cadet Corps (NCC) in the service of the nation adding that from floods to any other natural disasters, the cadets have helped the people during such calamities. Addressing the NCC Rally in New Delhi on 28 January, he said, during the COVID-19 period, lakhs of cadets worked with the administration and society across the country. Mr. Modi said, the country has seen effective results of people taking their responsibilities during COVID and India fought the pandemic well due to their efforts. He further said that India will soon be known as a producer of defence equipment, instead of being a market as it is today. He said, NCC has seen a 35 per cent increase in the number of girl cadets and every front of country's defence forces are being opened for females. He said, India's strong daughters are ready to battle it out against the enemies and India needs their bravery.



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## Vice President Calls upon Youth to Be at Forefront in Scripting India's Growth Story

Vice President of India Shri M Venkaiah Naidu called upon the youth to be at the forefront in scripting India's growth story. He was releasing a biography in Tamil on former President, Dr A P J Abdul Kalam at Raj Bhavan in Chennai. Observing that one of India's biggest strengths was its demographic dividend, Shri Naidu called for fully leveraging it to fast-track progress in different sectors—from agriculture to manufacturing and ensure a sustained growth rate in the coming years. Pointing out that about 65 per cent of the country's population is below 35 years and 50 per cent is below 25 years, he said this is the time for the youth of the country to be at the forefront in accelerating the progress. Stating that the former President firmly believed in using technology for the benefit and well-being of the society, the Vice President said, "In fact, Dr. Kalam can be credited with laying strong foundations of 'AtmaNirbharta' in our space and defence sectors, on which, our scientists and engineers are building today".



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## India Can Show the Way to the World through Its Philosophy of 'Universal Oneness': Vice President

During the virtual book launch on 22 January, Vice President Shri Venkaiah Naidu suggested that the Indian worldview of 'Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam' can show the way for the contemporary problems facing humanity. In a global context where the social fabric of many countries and communities are being eroded by hatred, violence, bigotry, sectarianism and other divisive tendencies, the age-old Indian philosophy of 'Universal Oneness' has a special relevance, he observed. Exhorting that there is quintessentially a democratic ethos in the Indian way of life, Shri Naidu said we see each individual as important as another. He added that our civilizational values recognize the vibrant variety in human beings and that there is no inherent conflict in this diversity as we are part of the same 'divinity'. The Vice President suggested that such a world view brings about mutual respect, peaceful co-existence and collaborative effort to achieve progress sustainably and inclusively.



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## INDIA'S GROWTH STORY

### Indian Pharmaceuticals – A Formula for Success

India is a prominent and rapidly growing presence in global pharmaceuticals. It is the largest provider of generic medicines globally, occupying a 20% share in global supply by volume, and also supplies 62% of global demand for vaccines. India ranks 3rd worldwide for production by volume and 14th by value. India is the largest vaccine producer in the world. Being the largest generic drugs exporter, New India is also known as the pharmacy of the world!



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## INCREDIBLE INDIA

### Ahmedabad – India's First World Heritage City



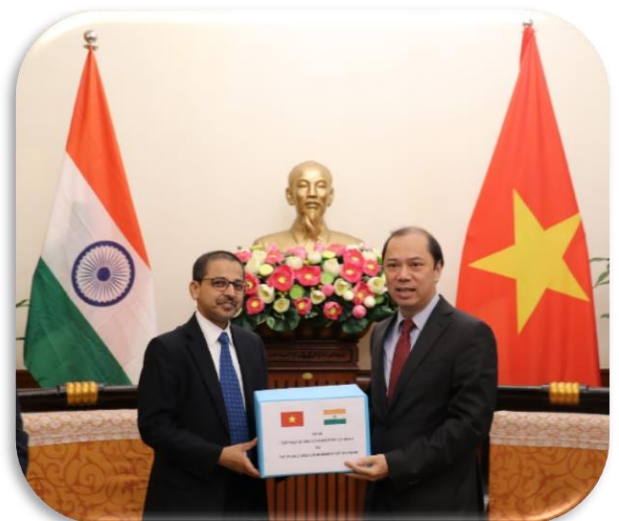
Declared as India's first UNESCO World Heritage City, Ahmedabad or Amdavad is steeped in history and tradition. It offers a seamless blend of spectacular architecture of centuries-old mosques and contemporary avant-garde design. It is also called the 'Manchester of East' for its thriving textile industry that has led Ahmedabad into the 21st century. The city is known for its grandeur and larger-than-life celebrations during Navratri, which is an open-air cultural and spiritual extravaganza. Ahmedabad has a strong association with India's struggle for independence. It was the abode of Mahatma Gandhi and the Dandi March (Salt March) began from here.

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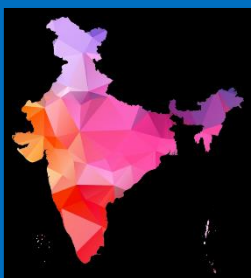
## EMBASSY'S CORNER

### India Provides Flood Relief Material to Vietnam

In a simple ceremony held on 15 January at Vietnam's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador of India to Vietnam H.E. Pranay Verma formally handed over to the Vice Foreign Minister of Vietnam H.E. Nguyen Quoc Dzung, the relief supplies gifted by the Government of India for the victims of flood and landslides that recently inflicted many provinces of central Vietnam. The relief material is being provided by the National Disaster Management Authority of India to Vietnam's Central Steering Committee for National Disaster Prevention and Control. The Indian Navy Ship INS Kiltan recently brought these supplies to Vietnam. The relief supplies are symbolic of warm and friendly ties between India and Vietnam and in line with the long tradition of the two countries standing for each other in times of adversity.



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### Embassy Organises Seminar on Promotion of Trade and Investment in Pharma Sector



The Embassy of India in association with the International Investment Promotion Alliance (INVEST-GLOBAL), Vietnam Association of Foreign Invested Enterprise (VAFIE) and Indian Business Chamber (INCHAM) in Hanoi organized an India-Vietnam Seminar on Promotion of Trade and Investment in Pharmaceutical Sector on 21 January 2021. The event was supported by the Drug Administration of Vietnam, the Ministry of Health of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam. In his keynote

remarks, Ambassador Pranay Verma urged businesses and all stakeholders on both sides to explore new opportunities for promoting engagement in pharmaceutical sector in accordance with the "Joint Vision for Peace, Prosperity and People" adopted by the Prime Ministers of India and Vietnam on 21 December 2020.

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### Celebration of Birth Anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

The Embassy family led by Ambassador Pranay Verma paid warm tributes to Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on 23 January 2021 that marks the beginning of year-long celebrations of his 125th birth anniversary. The day is also being commemorated as the Parakram Divas in honour of one of the tallest leaders of India's Freedom Struggle, whose vision and legacy continues to inspire successive generations. During the event, Vietnam's well-known Indologist, Associate Professor Do Thu Ha gave a scholarly presentation on Netaji's life and struggle from the perspective of Vietnam's own national movement.



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### 72nd Republic Day of India Celebrated in Hanoi

Embassy of India at Hanoi celebrated the 72nd Republic Day of India on 26 January 2021 together with the Indian community members in Vietnam.



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## Ambassador Delivers Lecture at Academy of Politics, Can Tho City



Ambassador Pranay Verma was invited on 19 January 2021 by the Academy of Politics in Can Tho City to deliver a lecture on India-Vietnam Relations for its faculty and trainees, comprising mainly of government and Party officials from southern provinces of Vietnam. The Academy is one of the four regional centers of the Ho Chi Minh National Academy of Politics (HCMNAP) based in Hanoi — the Communist Party of Vietnam’s main training academy for senior Party officials. HCMNAP and the Academy of Politics maintain close engagement with the Embassy and various academic institutions in India. HCMNAP also has a Centre for India Studies to promote scholarship on India within the Academy’s training activities. Ambassador has been regularly invited by HCMNAP and its regional academies for lectures on developments in India, Indian foreign policy and India-Vietnam relations.

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## Ambassador Visits Ho Chi Minh University of Technology and Education (HCM-UTE)



Ambassador Pranay Verma visited the Ho Chi Minh University of Technology and Education (HCM-UTE) in Ho Chi Minh City on 20 January 2021 as part of Mission’s outreach to Centres of Excellence in Vietnam. As a technology university, HCM-UTE has been a major participant in India’s #ITEC training programme and has over 50 faculty members trained in India in short-term courses over the last decade. Ambassador interacted with the university’s ITEC alumni and spoke on the role being played by technology in India’s efforts towards good governance, people’s empowerment and sustainable and inclusive development. He identified technology as a major enabler for the country’s fight against COVID-19.

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## Embassy’s Annual Media Get-Together



Ambassador Pranay Verma hosted a group of media representatives covering all major media outlets of Vietnam for a traditional New Year luncheon get-together at the Embassy on 14 January 2021. Ambassador thanked them for the important role they played in promoting India-Vietnam ties, which despite the disruptions of COVID-19, remained quite active in 2020 with several high-level engagements, including a Virtual Summit between the Prime Ministers of the two countries in December 2020.

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