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HANOI**

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INDIA-VIETNAM RELATIONS)

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India Toy Fair 2021 Is a Major Step towards Building AatmaNirbhar Bharat : PM



While inaugurating the India Toy Fair 2021 virtually on 27 February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi called for bringing out the hidden potential of the toy industry in India and to create an identity for it as a big part of the campaign for AatmaNirbhar Bharat. He added this first toy fair is not just a business or economic event. This program is a link to strengthen

the country's age-old culture of sports and cheer. He said this toy fair is one such platform where one can discuss toy design, innovation, technology, marketing and packaging and also share their experiences. He said the world has done research on toys from the era of Indus Valley civilization, Mohenjo-Daro and Harappa. Prime Minister remarked that today across the world, in every sector, Indian outlook and Indian ideas are being talked about. He added it is a specialty of Indian sports and toys that they contain knowledge, science, entertainment and psychology.

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ISRO Successfully Launches Brazil's Amazonia 1 Satellite

ISRO successfully launched PSLV C51 with Amazonia1 satellite of Brazil and 18 Co-passenger satellites from Sriharikota on 26 February. Amazonia1 is the first dedicated commercial mission of New Space India Limited, a Government of India company under Department of Space. Amazonia1 is the Optical Earth Observation Satellite of Brazil and the first Brazilian Satellite to be launched from India. It will monitor deforestation of the Amazon region in Brazil. Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro on its successful launch and termed this development as a historic moment in India-Brazil space cooperation. Speaking after witnessing the launch, former astronaut and Minister for Science and technology of Brazil Marcos Caeser Portes expressed happiness at the launch and said that Brazil is looking forward to work with India in the space field.



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PM Addresses NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum

Speaking on the virtual NASSCOM Technology and Leadership Forum (NTLF) on 17 February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded the IT industry for their resilience during the Corona period. He noted two percent growth in the sector and addition of 4 billion dollars in revenue amidst the apprehensions of de-growth. Prime Minister noted that today's India is eager for progress and the Government understand this feeling. He said aspirations of 1.3 billion Indians inspire us to move forward with rapid speed. He emphasized that expectations related to the new India are there from the private sector too as they are from the government. He listed the steps taken in recent times such as National Communication Policy, policy to make India Global Software Product Hub and Other Service Provider (OSP) guidelines which were issued during Corona period. He noted that recent liberalization of maps and geo-spatial data will strengthen the tech start up ecosystem and the wider mission of AatmaNirbhar Bharat.



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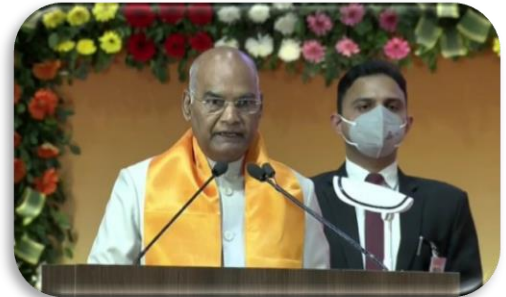
PM Addresses a Workshop on "Covid-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward" with 10 Neighbouring Countries

Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed a workshop on "Covid-19 Management: Experience, Good Practices and Way Forward" with health leaders, experts and officials of 10 Neighbouring Countries viz Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Maldives, Mauritius, Nepal, Pakistan, Seychelles, Sri Lanka along with Indian officials and experts, on 18 February. Prime Minister lauded the way the health systems of the countries cooperated during the pandemic and for meeting the challenge in the most densely populated region with coordinated response. PM recalled creation of COVID-19 Emergency Response Fund to meet the immediate costs of fighting the pandemic and sharing of resources - medicines, PPE, and testing equipment. He also noted sharing of experiences and learning from each other's best practices in testing, infection control and medical waste management.



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President Kovind: Educational Institutions Should Try to Make Students Capable Citizens of the Modern World Community



Addressing the 3rd Convocation of the Central University of Gujarat at Gandhinagar on 23 February, President Ram Nath Kovind said that educational institutions should try to make students capable citizens of the modern world community. President Kovind said that under the new National Education Policy, efforts are being made to encourage education of modern knowledge-science based on Indian values with the aim to make our country a 'knowledge superpower'. Creating awareness among students about their duties in the changing world is also a major objective of the new education system. President Kovind noted that building a strong and self-reliant India is at the heart of our global thinking. He added that we should always remember that our education should benefit the development of our society and country apart from personal benefit.

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Vice President Calls for a Massive National Campaign to Promote Healthy Lifestyle and Food Habits

Addressing the scientists of Centre for DNA Fingerprinting and Diagnostics in Hyderabad on 20 February, Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu called upon the people, particularly the youth, to adopt healthy lifestyle and avoid sedentary living and junk food in view of the growing incidence of non-communicable diseases in the country. Calling for collective efforts to promote awareness among the people, particularly school and college students, on the negative impact of sedentary lifestyles and unhealthy dietary habits, VP stressed the need to promote organic farming, revisit our traditional food habits and promote the consumption of protein-rich food for better health outcomes. Cautioning against the fad for instant food, he quipped "instant food means constant disease".



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PM Addresses 66th Convocation of IIT Kharagpur

While addressing the 66th Convocation of IIT Kharagpur on 24 February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that this day is not only important for the parents and teachers of the IIT but also for the New India as the students represent the entire country. He urged the students passing out, as they embark a new journey of life, to work towards creating startups and innovating things that can change the lives of crores of people in the country. PM said the need of the day is to work while anticipating the needs of the future, to make innovations for tomorrow. PM Modi asked the students to adopt the mantra of Self 3 – Self-awareness, Self-confidence, and Selflessness – to overcome their self-doubts and obstacles in the future. PM further highlighted that in the 21st century the IITs need to be taken to the next level from Indian Institutes of Technology to Institutes of Indigenous Technologies to meet the changing demands and aspirations of New India.



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Vice President: Primary Education in Mother Tongue Can Boost Children's Self-esteem and Creativity

Speaking at the inaugural session of the webinar organised by the Ministry of Education and Ministry of Culture, Vice President, Shri M Venkaiah Naidu called for making mother tongue the primary medium of instruction, at least until Grade 5. He suggested that educating a child in a language that is not spoken at home can be a big impediment to learning especially at the primary stage. Referring to multiple studies, Shri Naidu said that teaching through the mother tongue in the initial stages of education can boost a child's self-esteem and enhance his or her creativity. Calling the New Education Policy, a visionary and progressive document, he urged for implementing the Policy in letter and spirit.



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Second Khelo India National Winter Games



While giving inaugural address at 2nd Khelo India National Winter Games virtually on 26 February, Prime Minister Narendra Modi said that the second edition of Khelo India-Winter Games is starting today. This is a major step towards making Jammu and Kashmir a major hub with India's effective presence in the Winter Games. PM remarked that the number of players participating in this winter games from various states have doubled which demonstrates the increasing enthusiasm towards Winter Games. He said the experience from this winter games would help the players while participating in winter Olympics. PM further noted that winter games in Jammu & Kashmir would help in developing a new sporting ecosystem and this event would instill new spirit and enthusiasm in the tourism sector in Jammu & Kashmir.

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14 Missions Lined Up for Launch in 2021, Says ISRO Chairman K Sivan



ISRO has lined up 14 missions for launch in 2021, including the space agency's first unmanned mission later this year, its Chairman K Sivan said here on 28 February. He was addressing scientists at the Mission Control Centre here after the successful launch of Amazonia-1 of Brazil and 18 other satellites. ISRO plans to take up two unmanned space missions before the Gaganyaan-manned space mission. The Gaganyaan mission envisages sending three Indians to space by 2022. Sivan expressed hope that his team would rise to the occasion as usual and meet all the targets set by the ISRO.

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Important to Ensure that No Parallel Tracks for Climate Negotiations Are Created Brushing Aside the Fundamentally Agreed Principles: India at UNSC

Representing India at the United Nations Security Council Open Debate on "Addressing climate-related risks to international peace and security", Union Environment Minister, Shri Prakash Javadekar, stressed that the idea of climate action should not be to move the climate ambition goal post to 2050 and it is important for countries to fulfill their pre-2020 commitments. On India's Climate Actions Shri Javadekar stated that India is the only country on track among the G20 nations to meet its climate change mitigation commitments. We are not only meeting our Paris Agreement targets but will also exceed them. The Minister highlighted the International Solar Alliance (ISA) and the Coalition for Disaster Resilience Infrastructure (CDRI), the two initiatives by India that have been launched to address challenges of climate change and adaptation.



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INDIA'S GROWTH STORY

Medical Devices: Fostering Innovation for Improved Health



India is the 4th largest market for medical devices in Asia. The medical devices industry in India consists of large multinationals as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) growing at an unprecedented scale. The current market size of the medical devices industry in India is estimated to be \$11 bn and expected to reach \$ 50 bn by 2025. India among the top-20 markets for medical devices in the world. 100% FDI is allowed under the automatic route for both brownfield and greenfield setups. Strong FDI inflows reflect the confidence of global players in the Indian market.

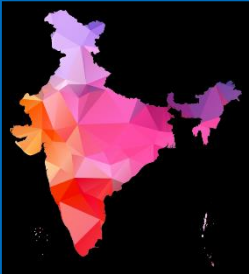
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Biotechnology

India is among the top 12 biotech destinations in the world and ranks second in Asia, after China. The Indian biotech industry is likely to experience significant growth on the back of increasing economic prosperity, health consciousness and a billion-plus population base. The sector is divided into five major segments: bio-pharma, bio-services, bio-agri, bio-industrial and bio-informatics. Biotechnology industry's growth in India is primarily driven by vaccines and recombinant therapeutics. Going forward, India also has the potential to become a major producer of transgenic rice and several Genetically Modified (GM) or engineered vegetables.



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INCREDIBLE INDIA

Thanjavur: Cultural Hub of Tamil Nadu



Scattered with gorgeous monuments, a legacy of the mighty Cholas, and ancient temples that are works of art, Thanjavur (popularly called Tanjore), in Tamil Nadu, stands as a glorious tribute to its former kings. At the heart of the town, is the UNESCO World Heritage Site of "Brihadeeswarar Temple", dedicated to Lord Shiva, that was built in the 11th century and is adorned with unique carvings and sculptures, along with inscriptions that give an account of life 1,000 years ago. While the temples are awe-inspiring, the city's opulent palaces are no less, testifying of the grandeur of the ancient Dravidian civilisation. This land is known for raising many classical musicians and Bharatanatyam dancers. Tanjore, a unique painting style is one of the most cherished arts of this place. It is also known for originating a percussion instrument, "Thavil" used in classical music of India. Known as the cultural capital of Tamil Nadu, it is famous for ancient temples and exquisite handicrafts.

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Yoga and Wellness: Rejuvenate Your Soul



A land of cultural plurality and rich ancient wisdom, India is known for its traditional systems of medicine that view health and well-being in a unique way. Since time immemorial, the Indian systems of preventive and proactive approach to healthcare have been appreciated worldwide. Over several centuries, innumerable systems of natural medication have survived and flourished in India which aim at synthesis between life and nature, without taking help of artificial or chemical elements. India has become the centre for Ayurveda, Yoga, Siddha, Naturopathy etc. and ashrams across the country are welcoming tourists who want to escape frenetic lives and combine their vacations with holistic wellness. India has continued to enrich this invaluable treasure of knowledge and practices by strengthening the research organisations and implementation of schemes to promote, cultivate and regenerate plants and herbs used in these systems.

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Leveraging India-Vietnam Business Opportunities in Post-COVID Scenario



Ambassador Pranay Verma addressed a virtual business seminar on "Leveraging India-Vietnam business opportunities in post-COVID scenario" organised by the Indian Chamber of Commerce on 26 January 2021. He highlighted new opportunities in Indian-Vietnam business relations as both countries explored new supply chain linkages and trade diversification in the new context. He also urged the businesses in both countries to enhance the use of technology in

doing business and develop a concrete plan of action with sectoral targets in order to expand the overall bilateral trade relations. The seminar focused on efforts to capture emerging business opportunities in post-COVID situation by bringing Government and market players together to assess the post-pandemic economic trends. The event included the launch of a virtual exposition of Indian products entitled "India e-Biz Expo".